

The Florist.

Winter, shod with fleecy snow,
Who cometh white, and cold, and mute,
Lest he should wake the Spring below.

BARRY CORNWALL.

Seedling Verbenas.

The best way of raising verbenas from the seed is to procure of some reliable florist half a dozen of the finest varieties, from white to dark purple. These seeds should be sown in shallow pans, which must be kept in a warm room near the stove. The pans should be filled with rich, light, loamy soil, and kept well moistened, but not too wet. As soon as the plants are of sufficient size to transplant into pots, do so—but with great care, keeping the plants warm, but out of the sun. If the plants are destined to be trained to frames, prune out the weakest stalks; and when spring comes, you will find you have a vigorous, healthy plant, which will be covered with bloom during the summer months. Those destined for bedding out should be trained rather differently, being allowed to fall over the sides of the pot; and to prevent the shoots from becoming weak, they should be supported by a light framework, hanging outside of the pot, made either of wire or reeds.

Charcoal.

It has been spoken of, that cuttings have been struck in charcoal in Germany; but it has now been ascertained that all kinds of plants will grow in charcoal better than in anything else. At Bicton, near Sidmouth, the seat of Lady Rolle, bananas and other stove plants are grown of a most extraordinary size and vigor, by the use of charcoal mixed with loam; the whole being put loosely into the pots, without breaking the compost into small particles. Under this treatment, bananas only two years old grow to a very large size and bear fruit. Greenhouse and hardy plants are grown in the same manner, and with similar success.

Coccos.

The scale-insect. These insects are troublesome on many wooded plants, such as the lemon and orange tree, and camellias; but more so in the kitchen-garden, on the vine and pineapple, than on flowering plants. One species of coccus infests the opuntia, and is what we call cochineal; and another, on a kind of fig-tree in India, produces the substance we call shell-lac, which is used in making sealing-wax. The only cure for these insects is brushing them off, and washing the branches with soft soap and water.

Griffinia.

Handsome bulbous-rooted plants, which require the heat of the stove, and which should be grown in equal parts of white sand, loam and peat. They should be allowed a season of rest, complete rest, in winter, and abundantly supplied with water when they begin to grow after re-potting in the spring. They should have plenty of air; and they are increased by offsets, which should be taken off when they are re-potted. They flower in autumn.

Saponaria.

Sopwort. Very beautiful little plants, annual and perennial, greatly resembling all kinds of lychnis. All the kinds of saponaria look well on rock-work, covering it with a profusion of beautiful little pink flowers. The handsomest kinds are *Saponaria Ocyoides*, *S. Calabrica*, for the perennials; and *S. Vacaria*, and *S. Perfoliata*, for the annuals. They will grow in any kind of garden soil.

24

Noisette Roses.

These roses are not as sensitive to bad air and improper soil as the teas; yet a few more of the delicate varieties, such as the Isabella Gray, the Jaume Desprey and the Chromatella, will repay the cultivator for a little extra care. Plants of these, established in a conservatory, in good soil, and trained to the snakes or trellis-work, form splendid festoons of rich flowers. Much discussion has taken place respecting the Isabella Gray, and several prominent rose fanciers in England, whose opinions our American writers are but too ready to re-echo, have spoken disparagingly of its blooming properties. Like many other novelties which sell at a high price, the plant has been so excessively propagated, that little cuttings with just root enough to make them plants are sent abroad, to be nursed instead of planted to produce bloom—mildewed and sick like a little Rebecca grape. Give an amateur a good, vigorous plant, and with proper treatment his Isabella Gray will prove the queen of Yellow Noisettes—at least little inferior to the favorite Chromatella.

A few Hints.

Palagoniums require some especial attention; re-pot all the plants intended for early bloom, and carefully train out the branches, so as to make bushy plants; nip off the end of the growing shoots; keep in a light and airy part of the house, near the glass, and fumigate often so as to keep down the green fly. Acalias will show signs of fresh growth, and as soon as they do, water more liberally. Canarias will need another shift, if growing rapidly; keep them near the glass, and practise fumigation regularly, as the green fly is destructive to the beauty of plants, and these especially. Achimenes and gloxinias may now be re-potted, placing them in the warmest part of the house, and water sparingly for a week or two.

Common Daisy (*Bellis Perennis*).

Those who are now filling their greenhouses or windows with plants for winter flowering, should not forget to procure a dozen or two pots of this sweet little flower. Placed near the glass on a shelf in a warm greenhouse, they flower early in the winter, and continue till spring is fairly opened. There are several varieties in cultivation, as the red, white, bluish, mottled, red-quilled, white-quilled, and hen and chicken daisy. The latter is a singular freak of one stem supporting a quantity of flowers, instead of one, the normal type.

Manettia.

Climbing plants, some of which require a stove, though one species, *manettia cordifolia*, which has very bright scarlet flowers, is generally grown in a greenhouse. It is a native of Buenos Ayres, whence it was introduced in 1831, and, like many plants from that country, it will very probably stand the summer in the open border. It should be grown in a mixture of sandy peat and loam; and when kept in a pot, be allowed plenty of room for its roots, and abundance of fresh air as often as possible. It is propagated by cuttings, which must be struck in sand, with bottom heat.

Osyria.

The poet's cassia. A pretty little shrub, a native of the south of Europe. It bears delicate white flowers, and should be grown in loam and peat; and is propagated by cuttings.

Curious Matters.

Wonderful Machines.

The common clock, it is said, beats in ticks, 17,100 times in an hour. This is 411,840 a day, and 150,424,680 a year, allowing the year to be 365 days and six hours. Sometimes watches will work with care for one hundred years—so we have heard people say. In that case they would last to beat 15,042,456,600 times. Is it not surprising that they should be beat to pieces in half that time? The watch is made of hard metal—but there is a curious machine which is made of something not near so hard as steel or brass. It is not much harder than the flesh of your arm, yet it will beat more than 5000 times an hour, 120,000 times a day, and 48,880,000 times a year. It will sometimes go on beating like the watch for one hundred years. That "curious machine" is the human heart. Is it not

"Strange that a harp of thousand strings
Should keep in tune so long?"

Curious Re-Union.

In November, 1860, Mr. Ernestus Salisbury, of Liverpool, Ohio, was married to Miss Helen Pritchard. About a year afterwards he took his departure to California, where he toiled in the mines until a few months ago. The correspondence between him and his wife was in some way interrupted, but rumors reached her that he had proved unfaithful, and she therefore procured a divorce. This step was taken after her husband had been absent eight years; but Mrs. Salisbury had been Miss Pritchard again but a few months when her former husband returned. Overwhelmed with surprise at finding himself a bachelor, he took immediate steps to reinstate himself in his former position. The charge against him he proved to be untrue; and after a courtship in due form, the couple were again married.

A singular Death.

The New Haven Journal says:—"Mr. Elihu Blakeslee, of Prospect, a hard-working and forehanded farmer, was taken ill a few weeks since by the swelling of his arm. Although the most eminent physicians were called to his assistance, it continued to grow worse, until it was thought amputation was the only way to save his life. The arm was taken off, but from that time he continued to sink very rapidly until he died. His age was about 70. Before his death he made his will, leaving three of his children \$10 each, and the other three the balance of his property, which is said to be quite extensive. There is probably not a man who has labored more earnestly and continuously to amass wealth than Mr. Blakeslee for thirty years past."

Remarkable Appearance.

A very curious phenomenon was observable from the steamer Sonora, as she entered the Gulf about twilight on a recent voyage, and it continued for some fifteen miles. The sea was the color of milk as far as the eye could reach. The paddles on the rudder even did not discolor it, nor turn up a single point of the luminous phosphorescence with which the ship's path had been marked for several preceding nights. Captain Baby mentioned that patches and streaks of this "milky sea" he had occasionally seen, but never anything of the sort on so large a scale before. In drawing a bucketful of water, it presented no unusual appearance; under a powerful glass, however, it was found to be all alive with animalcules.

Ingenious Mechanism.

The Norwich (England) Mercury says that "after years of mechanical labor and many mathematical tests, Mr. James White, of Wickham Market, has completed, and has now in active operation, a self-winding clock, which determines the time with unfailing accuracy, continuing a constant motion by itself, never requiring to be wound up, and which will perpetuate its movements so long as its component parts exists." As this would be nothing more or less than perpetual motion, it would require more than a simple statement of this kind to prove the truth of the existence of such an instrument.

Scientific Fact.

Burning-fluid explosions are not generally caused by contact of the flame with the fluid itself, but with the gas that is always escaping from the fluid when open to the air. People not understanding this fact, think they may safely fill lighted lamps, if they do not allow the flame to touch the fluid itself; but the invisible gas rises, touches the flame, the lamp explodes, and the consequences are sad, perhaps fatal. Never bring a lighted lamp within a foot, at the very nearest, of open fluid.

Historical Incident.

Sir Walter Raleigh, who was the first discoverer of the value of the potato as a food for man, one day ordered a lot of dry weeds to be collected and burned. Among these was a lot of dried potatoes. After the bonfire, these potatoes were picked up thoroughly roasted. Sir Walter tasted and pronounced them delicious. By this accident was discovered a species of food which has saved millions of the human race from starvation.

Natural Oil.

Petroleum, or rock oil, engaged the attention of the Pennsylvania people. In Crawford county the excitement is especially great; and everybody is digging wells to find the oil, or investing money in it. A great reservoir of it has been tapped at Titusville; hundreds of wells show it in other parts of the county, and the excitement is spreading. Except that it wants purifying, it resembles the kerosene or coal oil now in use.

Remarkable.

The New Orleans Delta reports that Joseph Wheeler, who had been deaf and dumb for about four years, lately ventured very near the mouth of a cannon—and when it was fired, he was knocked down senseless by the concussion. On recovering, to the surprise of all he spoke as fluently as anybody, and heard and answered all questions put to him, and is up to this time retailing language out in large doses.

An old Stager.

Abram F. Scranton, of Madison, Conn., who is now 76 years of age, has never ridden in a railway car in his life, and has determined that he never will. He invariably walks from Madison to New Haven, when business calls him; and performed this fast one day, lately, returning the next, a distance of twenty-one miles, in about five hours and a half, without serious fatigue.

An aged Negro.

A negro woman, named Clara Wilson, died near Alton, Illinois, December 18, 1869, at the age of 120. She settled in Alton, in 1840, being then nearly one hundred years old. The Alton Courier says:—"She was born and raised in South Carolina, and her earliest recollections were of Charleston, in that State, which she remembers as a smart village, instead of the great city it now is."

How to find Water in the Desert.

When the water begins to run short, and the known fountains have failed (as is too often the sad hap of these desert wells), fortunate is the man who owns a tame Chacma, or "Baboon," as it is called. The animal is first deprived of water for a whole day, until it is furious with thirst, which is increased by giving it salt provisions, or putting salt into his mouth. This apparent cruelty is, however, an act of true mercy, as on the Chacma may depend the existence of itself and the whole party. A long rope is now tied to the baboon's collar, and it is suffered to run about wherever it chooses—the rope being merely used as a means to prevent the animal from getting out of sight. The baboon now assumes the leadership of the band, and becomes the most important personage of the party. First it runs forward a little, then stops; gets on its hind feet, and sniffs up the air, especially taking care of the wind and its direction. It will then, perhaps, change the direction of its course, and after running for some distance take another observation. Presently it will spy out a blade of grass, or similar object, pluck it up, turn it on all sides, smell it, and then go forward again. And thus the animal proceeds until it leads the party to water, guided by some mysterious instinct, which appears to be totally independent of reasoning.

Singular restoration to Hearing and Speech.

The New Orleans Delta relates that a young man of that city named Joseph Wheeler, who had been deaf and dumb for four or five years past, was suddenly restored to his hearing and speech under the following circumstances: During the firing of a salute in front of Jackson Square, he went up very near the mouth of the cannon, and before those around could interfere to take him away, the cannon was touched off, and the concussion knocked him down, throwing him fifteen feet. He was picked up senseless and conveyed to the police station, where some water was sprinkled in his face. To the utter surprise and astonishment of all around, as soon as he opened his eyes he spoke as fluently as anybody, and heard and answered all questions put to him, and has evidently fully recovered the power of speech.

Autophagy—the Act of eating Oneself.

At a late meeting of the French Academy of Medicine, a very singular paper was read on "Autophagy, Spontaneous and Artificial." M. Anselmier, the author of the paper, bases his theory on the fact that the body, when deprived of its ordinary nutriment, consumes itself, until, as its substance wastes away, its temperature falls and death ensues. He had proved by experiments that the most economical method for this self-consumption is to keep up the ordinary processes of nutrition by slight bleeding and drinking the blood. Of two animals in a similar condition, one of which he starved, and the other fed upon its own blood alone, the latter lived several days longer than the former.

Very Curious.

There has recently been presented to the Museum of the Medical College, Mobile, a beautiful specimen of *legatta* or lace-wood tree. The peculiarity of it is in the fibrous nature of the bark, which is about an eighth of an inch thick. From this bark has been dissected more than twenty coats of apparently real crape or lace, most of them large enough to serve as a small handkerchief. It can be washed and ironed like ordinary muslin. The tree is a native of the West Indies, and is very rare.

Curious Experiments.

Some curious experiments have recently taken place at Paris, to test a new contrivance for protecting firemen from the action of the flames, and enabling them to resist a strong heat. It consists of gloves made of amaranthus, a kind of filamentous mineral—a helmet of the same material fitting into another of wire gauze, and a shield one metre in length and eighty centimetres broad, besides other garments of the abovementioned material. Three men having put on the gloves were enabled to carry iron bars at a white heat for three minutes, without being obliged to let go their hold. Straw was afterwards set fire to in a large cast-iron cauldron, and continually kept up, while a fireman, wearing the double helmet abovementioned, stood above the flames, which he warded off with the shield. Although they rose at times above his head, he was able to keep his post for a minute and a half. Numerous other experiments were tried, which demonstrated the success of the materials used.

Railroad Timepieces.

The conductors on the Swiss, French and Italian railroads carry a watch of ingenious construction, designed to lessen the danger of accidents. The aperture by which the watch is wound up is accessible to the conductor; but that by which the hands are regulated can be opened only by an official, whose business it is to set all the watches by a common standard. Thus the time of running the trains is rendered uniform, and no accident is excused on the ground of mistake. The aperture by which the dial is regulated is closed by an application of a system of permutation, such as is employed in some permutating locks.

Strange Tragedy.

A singular and dreadful occurrence took place at San Juan de los Remedios, Cuba, recently. A woman, who had never exhibited any symptoms of madness, suddenly, it is supposed, became insane, and taking four pieces of rope, during the temporary absence of her husband, suspended them to the ceiling of her house, hung a favorite game-cock with one, her youngest child, three months old, with another, her other child, four years old, with the third, and herself with the fourth rope. Her husband returning, found the woman and the eldest child still struggling, cut them down and they were restored; the youngest child and the fowl were dead.

Origin of the term Mosul.

The city of Mosul stands on the western bank of the Tigris, opposite the site of ancient Nineveh. "All those cloths of gold which we call 'muslins,'" says Marco Polo, "are of the manufacture of Mosul." It is probable that the city of Mosul, at that time one of the principal centres of Eastern commerce, may have given the appellation to various products of the loom, conveyed thence to the Mediterranean.

Transfusion of Blood.

A successful case of transfusion of blood into the veins of a woman was performed lately in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland. The woman, although in the prime of life, had become so weak from the loss of blood, that pulsation was at times imperceptible. The blood of a friend was injected into a vein in one of her arms, and the most cheering results were immediately manifested. She continued to improve rapidly, and at last accounts was considered beyond the reach of danger.

The Housewife.

Egg Sauce.

Boll the eggs hard, cut them into dice, and put the pieces into melted butter. The yolk may, however, be crushed to a powder, and used to thicken the butter. Or, if a more savory sauce is required, boll two eggs hard, mince them very fine, add a third portion of grated ham or tongue, a very little white pepper, and the juice of a lemon; warm it up in melted butter. It is chiefly used for roast fowl and salt codfish; and if the butter be sound, the salted will be found quite as good for all these purposes as the fresh.

Cool Rooms.

In fevers a cool room frequently does as much good as medicine; blinds coated with the following composition, and placed *outside* the window, are both sun and rain-proof. The greatest heat will not affect them. Boll well together two pounds of turpentine, one pound of litharge in powder, and two or three pounds of linseed oil; the blinds are to be brushed over with this varnish, and dried in the sun. Umbrellas, light linen coats, and covers of hats, may be so treated.

Game Pudding.

Game of any description can be made into puddings, and when partly boned, well spiced, with minced truffle or mushroom, mace, and a clove of garlic, and boiled within a rich paste, they are very rich, and the paste particularly fine, as it absorbs so much of the gravy; but the boiling deprives the game of much of its high flavor—and a woodcock or a snipe should never be so dressed, as they lose all the savor of the trail.

Potato Pie.

As many potatoes washed and sliced as will fill a pie-dish, a little salt and pepper, a sprinkling of finely chopped onions, a teacupful of cream (or good milk), a bit of butter the size of a walnut, cover with a meat pie crust, and bake till the potatoes are thoroughly done. If crust is not approved it is good without.

Bread Cheesecakes.

Slice a penny loaf as thin as possible, pour on it a pint of boiling cream. When well soaked, beat it very fine, add eight eggs, half a pound of butter, a grated nutmeg, half a pound of currants, a spoonful of brandy or white wine. Beat them up well together, and bake in raised crusts or patty-pans.

Mince Pie.

One cracker and a half, three spoonfuls of melted butter, a cup of vinegar, one cup of molasses, raisins and spice to your taste. Melt the butter and vinegar, then add the rest, and fill your paste. Cover as usual. This, if well made, can hardly be distinguished from a minced pie of meat and apples.

Lemon Pudding.

Half a pound of flour, half a pound of *sust* cut very fine, half a pound of crushed sugar, the rind of two lemons, and the juice of one or two eggs; boll it four hours in a shape. Served up without sauce it is excellent.

Egg Pudding.

Take any number of eggs, their weight in flour, brown sugar and butter, and a few currants or chopped raisins, as preferred. Mix well together by means of the eggs. Bake in buttered moulds; serve hot with wine sauce.

Oyster Patties, or Pies.

As you open the oysters separate them from the liquor, which strain; parboll them after taking off the beards; parboll sweetbreads, cut them in slices, lay them and the oysters in layers, season lightly with salt, pepper and mace; then put half a teacupful of liquor and the same of gravy; bake in a slow oven. Before serving, put a teacupful of cream, a little more oyster liquor, and a cupful of white gravy, all warm, but not boiled. If for patties, the oysters should be cut in small dice, gently stewed and seasoned as above, and put in the plate when ready for the table.

Sponge Cake.

A quarter of a pound of lump sugar, three-quarters of a pound of flour well dressed, the rind of a lemon grated, seven eggs, leaving two of the whites out; do not beat up the eggs; boll the sugar in a quarter of a pint of water, and pour it boiling hot on the eggs, whisking them very quickly while the sugar is poured gently on them; continue to whisk it for twenty minutes; stir in the flour, but do not whisk it after; put it into moulds, well buttered, and bake it in a quick oven. Be careful to have the oven ready, or the cake will be heavy.

Jumbles.

Take a quarter of a pound of flour, a quarter of a pound of powdered loaf sugar, two ounces of butter, rubbed in the flour, two ounces of currants, two eggs, and a small quantity of brandy. Drop them on tins.

Gingerbread.

Three-quarters of a pound of butter (dissolved), two pounds and a half of treacle, three pounds of flour, half a pound of moist sugar, two ounces and a half of ginger, and a quarter of a pound of candied peel.

Caledonian Cream.

Two teaspoonsful of white sugar, one teaspoonsful of raspberry jam, two whites of eggs, juice of one lemon. Beat for half an hour; serve up sprinkled with fancy biscuits.

Block Biscuits.

Half a pound of butter beaten up to a cream, half a pound of ground rice, three-quarters of a pound of flour, half a pound of loaf sugar, four eggs, and a little sal volatile.

Cup Cake.

One cup of sugar, one of butter, three and a half of flour, four eggs, half a cup of cream, and half a teaspoonsful of seleratus.

To Stop Mouse-holes.

Stop mouse-holes with plugs of common hard soap, and you will do it effectually. Rats, roaches and ants will not disregard it.

Cure for Warts and Corns.

The bark of the willow tree burnt to ashes applied to the parts, will remove all corns or excrescences on any part of the body.

Rice Cake.

Three eggs and the same weight of ground rice and sugar, mixed and beaten well. Bake quickly in a mould.

Salted Fish.

A glass of vinegar put into the water you lay your fish in to soak will fetch out most of the salt.

Picture-Varnish.

The picture, whether wood engraving or steel, must be stretched upon a common wooden frame. It can then be varnished in this manner:—Best pale glue and white curd soap, half an ounce of each; hot water, a quarter of a pint; dissolve, and then add a quarter of an ounce of alum powdered. Or else, make a solution of isinglass in water, and cover the print with it; then, when dry, apply with a camel's-hair brush a varnish made of one ounce of Canada balsam and two ounces of spirit of turpentine, mixed together.

Panada.

A glass of white wine and an equal quantity of water, with a little nutmeg and lemon-peel, should be set over a clear fire, in a very nice saucepan; the moment it boils up, throw in a large tablespoonful of very fine bread crumbs; stir it for a minute or two, until it is well mixed and thickened. If wanted for an invalid, where wine might not be proper, make as directed, only putting more water instead of the wine; and when it is nearly ready to take off the fire, add the juice of a lemon or orange.

Short, or Luncheon Cake.

Put into a basin sufficiently large to hold the whole ingredients, half a pound of fresh butter, and set it in the oven to melt. In the meantime mix well with one pound of flour two teaspoonsful of Bovwick's baking powder, a quarter of a pound of pounded loaf sugar, half a pound of currants washed and dried, two ounces of candied peel, a little mixed spice, with salt to taste. Mix three well-beaten fresh eggs with the butter, then add the whole. Bake in a quick oven.

Cold Cream.

Oil of almonds, one pound; white wax, four ounces; melt, pour into a warm mortar; add by degrees, rose water, one pint. It should be light and white. Or else, take oil of almonds, one ounce; white wax and spermaceti, of each, one drachm; rose water, one ounce; orange flower water, a quarter of an ounce.

Perfume-Bags.

Take of cloves, caraway seeds, nutmeg, mace, cinnamon and Tonquin beans, each half an ounce; then add as much Florentine orris-root as will equal the other ingredients put together; grind the whole well to powder, and put it into little bags among your clothes, etc.

Caper Sauce, white.

Put whole capers into melted butter, adding a little of the vinegar they are pickled in, a pinch of salt, and sufficient cream to make it white. This is used principally for boiled mutton.

Caledonian Cream.

Two teaspoonsful of white sugar, one teaspoonful of raspberry jam, two whites of eggs, juice of one lemon. Beat for half an hour. Serve up sprinkled with fancy biscuits.

Rice Buns.

Take a quarter of a pound of loaf sugar, and beat well with two eggs; then add a quarter of a pound of ground rice, and flavor with any essence preferred. Bake in drop tins.

Mouldy Ink.

One and a half dozen cloves (more or less, according to the size of the bottle), bruised with gum Arabic are to be put into the bottle.

Portable Balls for removing Grease Spots.

Dry fuller's earth so as to crumble it into powder, and moisten it well with lemon-juice; add a small quantity of pure pulverized pearlash, and work the whole up into a thick paste; roll it into small balls, let them completely dry in the heat of the sun, and they will then be fit for use. The manner of using them is by moistening with water the spots on the cloth, rubbing the ball over, and leaving it to dry in the sun; on washing the spots with common water, and very often with brushing alone, the spots instantly disappear.

Apple Sauce.

Pare, core and slice some apples, and put them in a stone jar, into a saucepan of water, or on a hot hearth. If on a hearth, let a spoonful or two of water be put in to keep them from burning. When they are done, bruise them to a mash, and put to them a piece of butter the size of a nutmeg, and a little brown sugar, if required; but it destroys the slight acid flavor of the apples, and its corrective to goose and pork.

To make Lemon Syrup.

Take two pounds of loaf sugar and put it to two pints of water, and boil gently for half an hour. Put it in a basin till cold. Then take one ounce of citric acid beat to a powder, and half a drachm of essence of lemon, mixed together before added to the syrup. Put two tablespoonsful of the syrup into the tumbler, and fill up with cold water.

Hilton Pudding.

Take some thick slices of bread, cut off the crust, and soak it well in milk; remove it into a dry dish, and wash it over with egg, and grate a small quantity of nutmeg on it. Boil some lard, and put in the prepared bread; fry it of a light brown. When served up, pour white wine sauce and scatter powdered sugar over it.

Sauce for Bump-Steak.

Take equal parts of ale, red wine and catsup, a piece of butter and a little pepper, with a teaspoonful of garlic vinegar; stir these over the fire in a small saucepan, and pour it very hot upon the steak. It will form a pleasant addition to the gravy of any roast meat, and can be made in a few minutes.

Indian Meal Puffs.

Into one quart of boiling milk stir eight tablespoonsful of meal and four spoonfuls of sugar. Boil five minutes, stirring constantly. When cool, add six well-beaten eggs. Bake in buttered cups half an hour. Try them with a little butter and maple molasses, and see if they are not good.

Lemon Pudding.

Half a pound of bread crumbs, quarter of a pound of suet, quarter of a pound of brown sugar, one lemon, juice and rind, and one egg; to be boiled in a mould one hour. Serve with a little wine sauce, if approved.

Rats and Rat-Holes.

It is better to stop rat-holes with pieces of sticks or chips chopped up into lengths of one or two inches, saturated with coal tar and rammed into their holes, than to pour it into them.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THANKSGIVING PUMPKINS AND GIRLS.

A foreign correspondent of the New York Times says: "A private letter from Berlin gives an account of the American Thanksgiving dinner on the 24th of November. About seventy Americans sat down to a substantial repast of American viands—turkey, mince-pie and pumpkin-pie (the latter supplied by a New England lady). My enthusiastic epicure of a correspondent says of the pumpkin-pie: 'It was not exactly the same as it used to be in America, but formed, after all, as I—says, 'a very good translation!' It lacked only that thin brown skin, which we children used to delight to peel off, and eat first!' Notwithstanding the absence of the thin brown skin, our countrymen made themselves very merry with toasts, and speeches, and jokes. Among other comical sayings, a gentleman from Massachusetts spoke for the ladies, claiming it as his privilege, since he came from a town that once received General Jackson with *five miles of girls*; but was somewhat disconcerted by the remark of a gentleman from Virginia, who said that 'if a miss was as good as a mile, that meant exactly *five girls*.'"

COASTWISE STEAMERS.—The coastwise steam commerce of the United States is yet in its infancy, but is destined to become an interest of the first importance. Steamers of medium size, probably iron propellers, must before many years ply between all ports on the Atlantic coast and in the Gulf of Mexico, as they do now on the coast of the United Kingdom.

MATRIMONIAL.—A man in Johnson county, Iowa, sixty-five years of age, forgetting that

"Crabbed age and youth
Cannot live together,"

was lately united in matrimony to a girl of thirteen.

ORIGIN OF A WORD.—A literary gentleman, of London, claims that the word *whig* was derived from the initial of the party motto, "We hope in God."

MAPLE SUGAR.—Our maple sugar crop in this country amounts to nearly \$34,000,000—thirty-four millions of dollars a year!

THE SKY AND THE WEATHER.

The color of the sky, at particular times, affords wonderfully good guidance as an indicator of the weather. Not only does a rosy sunset presage fair weather, and a ruddy sunset bad weather, but there are other tints which speak with equal clearness and accuracy. A bright yellow sky in the evening indicates wind; a pale yellow, wet; a neutral gray color constitutes a favorable sign in the evening, an unfavorable one in the morning. The clouds again are full of meaning in themselves. If their forms are soft, undefined, and feathery, the weather will be fine; if the edges are hard, sharp, definite, it will be foul. Generally speaking, any deep, unusual hues betoken wind or rain; while the more quiet and delicate tints bespeak fair weather. These are simple maxims; and yet not so simple but that the English Board of Trade has thought fit to publish them for the use of seafaring men.

BEAUTY.—Socrates called beauty a short-lived tyranny; Plato, a privilege of nature; Theophrastus, a silent cheat; Theocritus, a delightful prejudice; Carneades, a solitary kingdom; Domitian said that nothing was more grateful; Aristotle affirmed that beauty was better than all the letters of recommendation in the world; Homer, that 'twas a glorious gift of nature; and Ovid, alluding to him, calls it a favor bestowed by the gods.

A GOOD HINT.—If, in instructing a child, you are vexed with it for want of adroitness, try, if you have never tried before, to write with your left hand, and remember that a child is all left hand.

CORRECTION.—In speaking of the weight which Dr. Winship the strong man could lift, the types made us say in our last number of the Magazine *two hundred pounds in place of ten hundred pounds*.

QUESTION AND ANSWER.—Why is an Englishman like nineteen shillings? Because he is under a sovereign.

EXPERIENCE.—Experience is the best teacher in the world; but then her charges are higher than those of any other school-ma'am.

SUCCESS IN LIFE.

Every one wishes to succeed in life, and success—of course we speak of success attained by honorable means—is a duty. The goals of the travellers who start upon the highway of life are as various as the tastes of man: one seeks political distinction, another military renown, a third literary fame, a fourth the laurels of the artist, a fifth, perhaps, aims at attaining pre-eminent skill in some handicraft. Too many pursue wealth, not as a means, but as an end. At first, and to the eyes of youth, the attainment of each of these objects appears easy. In the mirage of life's young dream each favorite object looms up distinctly and near at hand, and it seems as if it required but a few rapid strides to grasp them. But as mile after mile is passed and hour after hour glides away, we see the phantom recede before us, as Mt. Blanc recedes before the approaching tourist. We see that there are flinty paths, and deep ravines, and wild, whirling streams to be traversed before we reach the prize, and the fainthearted come to think that the coveted good is unattainable. But the mountain comes not to Mahomet, Mahomet must go to the mountain. To drop allegory and figurative expression, success is attainable, but only through persevering labor which involves an iron will. In our copy books at school we are taught to write over and over again the dogma, "Labor conquers everything;" but personal experience, or that of others only can teach us that "Nothing is impossible with him who wills." Will and labor are more than a match for "those twin-jailors of the heart, low birth and iron fortune."

A young French officer was often heard to say to himself, as he paced his narrow quarters, "I will be a great general, and I will be marshal of France." And he became both. The Duke of Marlborough, as he sat shaking in his saddle on the eve of a terrible battle, was wont to exclaim, "See how this little body trembles as what this great soul is about to achieve." This was not the frothy boast of a vain man, but the declaration of one who knew that his iron will would override every obstacle, and in the might of its inflexibility, reach the goal of victory at last. The determination to succeed works miracles. It gives the man apparently most unfit to succeed in any given walk, a mastery over adverse circumstances, and a triumph over rivals favored by nature. "It is quite alarming," says Victor Hugo, "to see the catalogue of preparatory studies marked out for the apprenticeship of the general; but how many excellent generals there have been who could not even read! It would seem the first condition, the *sine qua non*

of every man destined for the wars, that he should have good eyes, or at least that he should be stout and active. Sure enough. But a crowd of great generals have been one-eyed or crippled. Philip was one-eyed, lame, and maimed of one hand; Hannibal was one-eyed; Bajazet and Tamerlane—the two thunderbolts of war, in their age—were, the one lame, the other half blind. Luxembourg was hunchbacked. It seems even that nature, inridicule of all our calculations, had wished to show us the phenomenon of a general totally blind, guiding an army, marshallng his troops for battle, and winning victories. Such a man was Ziska, chief of the Hussites."

One would think that to be a distinguished painter hands at least were necessary. But there is an excellent European artist, born without hands, and who manages his brush and crayon with his feet more dexterously than many a professional painter endowed with flexible fingers. And a more surprising case yet was that of an English lady who had neither hands nor arms, was a mere trunk, in short, who held her pencil in her teeth, and yet painted well. There is a case on record of a crippled shoemaker in Essex county, so unfortunate as to be able to move about only on his hands and knees, yet who drained, reclaimed and cultivated one acre of land, stocked it with fruit trees, and raised from it six hundred dollars' worth of produce in a year. After such examples, who of us need be discouraged?

It is this disbelief in impossibilities which has rendered our own beloved country the wonder of the universe. Never before were a whole people imbued with such a zeal for labor and such a determination to succeed. Look at the result!—a continent cleared of primeval forests; thirty-three great sovereignties established, peopled, supplied with churches, schools, roads, libraries, manufactures, arts; the deep-rooted oaks and pines of centuries building a magnificent mercantile marine that bears our flag and our wealth to every quarter of the globe; a net-work of railroad and canals and telegraphs, linking the whole territory between the Atlantic and the Pacific, the lakes and the gulf together in body and mind; and all this accomplished in less than two centuries and a half by the invincible force of united will and labor!

MYTHOLOGICAL.—When your hair gets into disorder, what heathen deity should it name? Comus (Comb us).

TAX.—The theatres of New York pay an annual tax into the city treasury of some \$6000.

THE INDIANS OF NEW ENGLAND.

Who that looks upon one of those dusky specimens of humanity, that are occasionally seen about our railroad stations, peddling small wares, can realize that he belongs to the same race which produced the princely Uncas and the royal Philip, the warrior sachem of Mount Hope? Yet the same blood that coursed impetuously through the veins of the once lordly possessors of the soil on which we dwell, filters sluggishly through the handful of red men yet huddled together, or sparingly scattered in Massachusetts and in Maine. And the more intelligent among these people must experience many a bitter pang, as they contrast their present condition, their restricted limits, the restraints which they suffer, with the eminence, the wide range, and the independence of their ancestors. "I have been looking at your beautiful city," said an Indian chief to General Knox, at New York, in 1789, "I have been looking at your beautiful city—the great water—your fine country, and see how happy you all are. But then I could not help thinking that this fine country, and this great water, were once ours. Our ancestors lived here—they enjoyed it as their own in peace. It was the gift of the Great Spirit to themselves and their children. At last, the white people came here in a great canoe." He proceeded to describe in brief, but eloquent terms, the conduct and progress of the whites, ending: "They brought spirituous and intoxicating liquors with them, of which the Indians became very fond. They persuaded us to sell them some land. Finally, they drove us back, from time to time, into the wilderness, far from the water and the fish and the oysters. They have destroyed the game—our people have wasted away, and now we live miserable and wretched, while you are enjoying our fine and beautiful country. This makes me sorry, brethren! and I cannot help it."

To a man who feels thus, and appeals thus to your own feelings, it is useless and cruel to reply with arguments that pass current only among the civilized, viz.: That land belongs of right only to those who can use, not to those who possess it; that a territory which supports thousands of men, cannot be abandoned to a handful; or, that the land owned by the aborigines was transferred to the whites on the usual conditions of purchase and sale. In fact, the purchase of the Indian lands was a mere farce; the whites giving what they knew to be an unfair equivalent, taking undue advantage of ignorance of value on the part of those with whom they dealt. Our fathers indeed gave these poor children of the crest what they asked, but they should have

given more. Step by step the Indians of New England found themselves stripped of their land, burthened, moreover, with vices acquired from the whites, and certainly in many cases foully wronged, though by individuals, and not by the colonists generally.

The Indians of New England, if they labored under disadvantages, possessed also all the higher qualities of savage nature. If they were poor, they were generous and hospitable; if they were ferocious, they were brave; if they were revengeful, they were generous; if they exhibited cruelty, they also displayed fortitude. They were, until their ruinous contact with civilization, temperate and chaste as they were necessarily frugal. If their highest ambition was to excel in war, can we wonder at it, when war is the idol of brilliant and refined France in the days in which we live?

Winslow, who at first asserted they had no religion, changed his opinion, saying: "Therein I erred, for as they conceive of many divine powers, so of ONE, whom they call KEINTAN, to be the principal and maker of the rest, and to have been made by none. He, they say, created the heavens, earth, sea, and all the creatures therein; also that he made one man and one woman, of whom they, and we, and all mankind come; but how they became so far dispersed, they know not. At first, they say, there was no sachem or king but KEINTAN, who dwelleth above in the heavens, whither all good men go when they die, to see their friends, and have their fill of all things."

We have said that these Indians were occasionally foully wronged. Let us take an example: "Miantonomo," says Elliott, in his New England History, "the chief of the Narragansetts, and one of the most capable Indians in New England, the friend and favorite of Roger Williams, was taken prisoner by Uncas, who referred the matter to the ministers at Hartford; they decided that he ought to be put to death—not for what he had done, but because they feared him—so he was murdered in cold blood." The ministers justified themselves, we are told, by quoting Agag and "sundry other cruel doings of the Jews towards unarmed enemies." "This," says Governor Hopkins, was the end of Miantonomo, the most potent Indian prince the people of New England ever had any concern with; and this was the reward he received for assisting them, seven years before, in their war with the Pequots. Surely a Rhode Island man may be permitted to mourn his unhappy fate, and to drop a tear on the ashes of Miantonomo, who, with his Uncle Canonicus, were the best friends and greatest benefactors the colony ever had;

they kindly received and protected the first settlers of it when they were in distress, and were strangers and exiles, and all mankind else were their enemies; and by this kindness to them, drew upon themselves the resentment of the neighboring colonies, and hastened the untimely end of the young king." Thirty years afterwards, when Philip of Pokanoket took the war-path, the colonists had reason to remember the fate of Miantonomo. It was a bloody drama of crime and retribution.

THE RULING PASSION.

A person having occasion to visit an old couple at Durham, England, of extremely penurious habits, found them holding counsel together upon a matter which apparently weighed heavily on the minds of both, and thinking it was respecting the probable dissolution of the wife, who was lying dangerously ill, proceeded to offer them all the consolation in his power; but was cut short by being informed that that was not exactly the subject they were discussing, but one which afflicted them still more deeply, viz., the cost of her funeral; and, to his astonishment, they continued their ghastly calculations until every item in the catalogue, from coffin to night-cap, had been gone through, with much grumbling at the rapacity of "the undertakers," when a bright thought suddenly struck the husband, and he exclaimed: "Well, Janet, lass, you may no' die after all, ye ken." "Deed, an' I hope not, Robert," replied his helpmate, in a low, feeble voice, "for I am quite sure that we canna afford it."

VICE, FOLLY AND VIRTUE.—Vice and folly may feel the edge of wit, but virtue is invulnerable; aquafortis dissolves the base metals, but has no power to dissolve or corrode gold.

A LADY PATRONESS.—Niebuhr, speaking of a lady who had patronized him, said, "I will receive roses and myrtles from female hands, but no laurels."

SHORT SAYINGS.—The little and short sayings of wise and excellent men are of great value—like the dust of gold or the least sparks of diamonds.

THE TRUE AND FALSE.—True friends are like true diamonds—scarce but precious. False ones, like the leaves of a forest, without number.

THE PORT OF SAFETY.—The place of greatest safety is the place where duty calls you.

SMOKE-CONSUMING LOCOMOTIVE.

It has always been a desideratum to construct a locomotive capable of consuming the smoke that issues from its iron lungs. Various attempts have been made to accomplish this object, but without success. It now appears, however, that Mr. Grier, superintendent of the workshop of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Altona, has constructed a new locomotive, of which the Pittsburgh Chronicle says: "It is regarded by those competent judges of such matters as one of the most powerful and complete engines of the class ever constructed anywhere. In appearance it resembles the ordinary 'camel back,' or coal burning engines now in use on the eastern division of the line, with the exception that it is far more highly finished, and seems built for greater speed. Its chief recommendation, however, lies not in its attractive appearance. It has other qualities, which give it far more interest in the eyes of railroad men—improvements which have long been desired in locomotives. It consumes its own smoke, so that, instead of the vast volumes of smoke which the ordinary locomotive belches forth at each revolution, a little steam only is seen escaping from that of Mr. Grier's invention. In consuming the smoke, a great saving of fuel is effected. She made the run from Altona—a distance of one hundred and seventeen miles—upon twenty-five bushels of coal, maintaining a high rate of speed all the time, and evincing the possession of extraordinary power."

"THE WELCOME GUEST."—Nearly seventeen hundred of the subscribers to our Magazine have thus far, since the first of January, enclosed us \$1 50, and so become subscribers to our new mammoth paper, *The Welcome Guest*—thus making that paper the cheapest in the world, as our Magazine is the cheapest monthly ever published. The new paper contains more reading matter than any other weekly in America. Remember *The Welcome Guest* and the *Dollar Magazine*, together, we send for \$2 50 a year, and that any subscriber to the Magazine has only to enclose us \$1 50, and mention that he is on the subscription list of our Monthly, to receive the new mammoth paper for that price.

PHILOSOPHY.—Inherited fortunes, like ready-made clothes, seldom fit those who get them. To spend money properly requires as much brains as to acquire it.

REMEMBER.—Four things come not back: the broken word, the sped arrow, the past life, and the neglected opportunity.

ADULTERATED LIQUORS.

Dr. Hiram Cox, the Cincinnati inspector, has published many deeply interesting facts of his experience in testing liquor sold in that city. In seven hundred inspections of stores and lots of liquors of every variety, he found that ninety per cent. were impregnated with the most pernicious and poisonous ingredients. Nineteen young men, all sons of respectable citizens, were killed outright by only three months' drinking of these poisoned liquors. Many older men, who were only moderate drinkers, died within the same period of delirium tremens, brought on in one quarter the time usual, even with confirmed drunkards, by drinking the same poison. Of four hundred insane patients, he found that two-thirds had lost their reason from the same cause. Many of them were boys under age. One boy of seventeen was made insane by the poison, from being drunk only once. Seeing two men drinking in a grogshop, and that the whiskey was so strong that it actually caused tears to flow from the eyes of one of them, the doctor obtained some of it and applied the tests. He found it to contain only seventeen per cent. of alcohol, when it should have had forty, and that the difference was supplied by sulphuric acid, red pepper, caustic and potassa, and strychnine. A pint of this liquor contained enough poison to kill the strongest man. The man who had manufactured it had grown wealthy by producing it. These alarming facts do not apply to Cincinnati alone, but are of equal force in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and our American cities generally. It is a matter of wonder to us that people will deceive themselves and believe that they are drinking pure liquors, when there is not one pure gallon sold for every ten thousand that is consumed!

FEMALE CHARMs.—The ladies in Japan paint the face white and red, the lips purple, with a golden glow; the teeth of a married lady are blackened, and her eyebrows extirpated.

PHILOPENA.—An exchange says this word signifies, in its common use, "friendship's forfeit." It is a Greek and Latin compound, and literally interpreted, signifies, "I love the penalty."

EXPRESSIVE.—A late English writer, in speaking of the United States, says: "It is the land of large farms and thinly peopled graveyards."

THAT'S THE WAY.—To get a duck for dinner—jump into the river.

HUNTING IN ENGLAND.

Everybody knows how passionately fond of hunting the British are—

"Coastion, hawking of neck and spine,
Which English gentlemen call sport divine."

Now we in this country are fond of hunting also, but the game must be worth the candle. An elk or a moose or a bear is worth something, and explains the ardor of the Nimrod. But observe that in England the game is worth nothing; the object of pursuit is only a fox. And the motive is not to exterminate a nuisance, for had that been the case, the island would long ago have been cleared of foxes. No, the fox is but an apology for riding and leaping, dining and drinking. Sometimes the English sportsmen course hares. Now let us see what the hunting of England costs, and perhaps we shall be astonished at the sum total. It is said that in Yorkshire, there are ten packs of fox hounds, one pack of stag hounds, or fifty couples each, and five or six harriers, equal in all to thirteen or fourteen packs of fox hounds. Thirteen packs of fox hounds, or fifty couples each, that is 1300 hounds, consume annually 200 tons of oat meal, at a cost of £2600, or \$13,000, besides the carcasses of about 2000 dead horses. There are at least 1000 hunting men in Yorkshire, keeping, upon an average, four horses each. Four thousand horses cost £209,000, at an average of £50 apiece, and their keep at £50 per annum each, makes £200,900 more. Four thousand horses employ 2000 men as grooms, and consume annually 4000 quarters of oats, 2900 quarters of beans, and 8000 tons of hay.

PRECIOUS STONES.—The first question from one lady to another in Paris, at present, is: "My dear, what diamonds have you got?" The rage for these lumps of light is beyond that of any former day. The wealthiest ladies look as if ornamented with decanter stoppers, so monstrous and many are the glittering jewels on neck and wrist, brow and stomacher.

A SCULPTRESS.—Miss Hosmer is not the first lady who has excelled in sculpture. The finest bust ever made of Peter the Great was executed by Mlle. Collot, a French lady, who was deeply enamored of the emperor.

QUEER.—One of the Texas papers says there is no water in the vicinity of Austin, nearer than two miles, and the people are obliged to swim their horses over the river to get it!

WONDERFUL.—An individual has been fined \$1 and costs, at Norwich, for stealing an umbrella.

ABUNDANT RICHES.

The silver discoveries in California promise to be of far more importance than the discovery of gold in 1848, inasmuch as the product of the lighter metal will now be more abundant, and its comparative appreciation in value, growing out of its relative scarcity, will cease, thus removing the apprehension of a troublesome change which has given so much uneasiness to political economists. The samples of silver-bearing quartz, now at the Assay Office, fully justify the reports heretofore published. The ore is worth in its richest developments about \$5000 per ton, and the field of discovery appears to be a solid mine of this wealth thirty miles in length. These silver mines were first discovered on the 20th of June last, by Captain McLaughlin, of Angels Camp, Calaveras county. The principal part of the ore is taken out forty feet below the granite surface. The lead is from four inches to two feet in width. Washoe Valley is one hundred and eight miles from Nevada, via Downieville Pass, and about thirty miles from Genoa, Carson Valley. Virginia City is the name of the camp in the vicinity of the mines. Claims have been taken up for miles upon the supposed continuation of the lead. Some are sinking shafts, and others are running drifts. Population is rapidly increasing. Capital and labor are required, as silver mines do not yield an immediate return like the gold placers. What an Aladdin-like age we live in!

WELL TO REMEMBER.—Any persons residing in New England, having sheet music, magazines, newspapers, or serial works of any kind, which they desire to have neatly bound, have only to address them to this office, enclosing directions, and hand the package to the express. The works will be bound in the neatest manner, and at the lowest rates, and returned in *one week*. Godey's Magazine, Harper's New Monthly, Harper's Weekly, Peterson's Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, London Illustrated News, Punch—in short, all and every serial work is bound as above.

HOPE.—Hope is a pleasant acquaintance, but an unsafe friend. He'll do on a pinch for a travelling companion, but he is not the man for your banker.

HASHEESH.—The use of hasheesh, in nervous affections, is getting quite common abroad. Rather a dangerous remedy, we should think!

QUERY.—What kind of a boat resembles a knife? That's easy enough—a cutter.

THE LADIES' HEARTH-STONE CLUB.

The New York correspondent of the *Charleston Mercury* says some very saucy things about the discussions of this "institution," for which he ought to have his ears pulled by a committee of the ladies. Hear the wretch: "One week the all-absorbing topic is pumpkin pies, and how to make and cook them. Another week the engrossing theme is 'cod-fish balls.' Elaborate essays are read on 'the use of the bottle in nursing,' 'taking up and putting down carpets,' 'removing stains from kid gloves,' and a hundred other tiny domestic topics. Twelve members speaking at one time is a common occurrence, and the general effect on an outside listener is very much like the garrulous twitter of a flock of blackbirds. At the last meeting the dominant theme was dolls. It is needless to say that the rag-baby advocates were crushed and humiliated in the discussion, and that the presidentess, who is clothed with the awful power of deciding all controversies, settled the question for all time in favor of painted India rubber, both on artistic and utilitarian grounds."

A FAMILY NECESSITY.—A public journalist who recommends a useless quack medicine is guilty of a great wrong to the public, but he who makes known the virtue of a truly valuable specific, is equally to be commended. In private, and in the papers we issue, it has always been a pleasure to us to endorse the *Oxygenated Bitters*, which form the best tonic medicine ever produced. They contain no spirituous compound, but afford the invalid the much desired strength, without the reaction that follows the use of other tonics. This pleasant preparation is the natural enemy of dyspepsia.

A CHANCE.—As we are now closing out the stock of Ballou's Pictorial, we will sell the bound volumes at *half price*, that is less than the cost of the white paper! These volumes contain thousands of brilliant engravings, tales, novelettes, sketches, biographies, adventures; in short, each volume is an illuminated library in itself. Call and see.

"THE WELCOMER GUEST."—This new literary journal is a credit to Boston. Without meddling in politics, or sectarian matters, it is yet intensely interesting, crowded with original matter, and treating upon a great variety of subjects. No handsomer newspaper comes to our table, nor any one that is conducted in a more scholarly or agreeable manner. Messrs. Ballou and Durivage, the editors, are gentlemen of great experience and good taste.—*City Item*.

AN ARTIST'S STUDIO.—A portrait-painter's studio reminds one of a street during a row—it is full of *striking* likenesses.

Foreign Miscellany.

Small pox has been raging in Paris, and a lovely countess was a victim.

Lord Clyde's share of the India plunder is stated by an English paper at £120,000 sterling.

The governments of France and Spain have ordered a combined fleet to Vera Cruz.

The male births in Europe surpass the female four millions every year, but are balanced by the greater number of accidents to males.

Prescott's History of the Reign of Philip II. has been published by Messrs. Firmin Didot Freres, Paris.

Coolies from China still continue to arrive at Demarara, though nearly half of those who start die on the voyage.

Lonis Napoleon has secured a newspaper organ in London, it is stated, by purchasing the Morning Chronicle for about \$50,000.

The shares of the Great Eastern continue to decline in England. Old junk dealers are said to keep a sharp eye on the vessel.

So great is the pressure to obtain divorces in England, that before long additional judges must be appointed to the court. It is stated that there is now an arrear of six hundred divorce cases.

Since the alteration in the newspaper stamp duty, no less than 411 penny publications have been brought into existence in Great Britain, of which 372 have already become extinct.

In consequence of the enlargement of the area of Paris, the government has ordered the opening of three hundred and nineteen new bakers' shops. Eight new theatres are also to be constructed.

Experiments, attended with great success, have recently been made in France, with steam as a fire annihilator; and what, at the outset, threatened to be severe conflagrations, have, in several instances, been extinguished by its use.

The Emperor of Russia has ordered the establishment of six schools in six different places in Caucasus, and has decided that the Russian language, writing, arithmetic, geography, history, and drawing shall be taught in them.

Nearly \$2000 have been subscribed for the statue to Dr. Isaac Watts, in the public park at Southampton, Dr. Watts's native town. Mr. Lucas, the sculptor, has commenced the statue, which will be above life-size, and, with the pedestal, will stand nearly twenty feet high.

Some years ago, Madame Goldschmidt raised £2000 for the purpose of adding a wing to the Southern Hospital in Liverpool. A suggestion is now made that the bust of that generous lady be purchased by subscription, and be placed in the hospital as a memorial of her services.

The amount of Australian gold received in London is annually and regularly decreasing, and has been since 1855. The best authorities in the Victoria Colony, and those interested in keeping up expectation on the subject, admit that the amount of the precious metal is unquestionably limited, and that it will in a comparatively brief period dwindle to moderate limits.

The latest Parisian bonnets are long, round, and advancing well over the head.

Nineteen Chinamen were lately beheaded in Canton for the crime of kidnapping coolies.

Almost all the European governments are a little short of money just about this time.

Lord Macaulay was buried in Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey, with appropriate honors.

The stud of the Emperor Napoleon consists of about 203 horses—saddle, carriage and post horses.

Dr. Livingstone, in the course of his new explorations, has "seen the elephant," at the rate of 800 of the huge animals in one flock.

Seventeen hundred and sixty-eight children were born in London during the last week in December.

A submarine telegraph cable has been successfully laid between the Channel Islands and France.

Letters from Vienna fully confirm the assertion that Austria has abandoned all idea of renewing the war in Italy.

The Pyne and Harrison troupe were playing Mellon's Opera of Victorine at Covent Garden at last dates.

A cargo of two hundred and thirty-seven tons of human bones lately arrived in England from Sevastopol, which are to be used as compost.

It is stated that Macaulay's History is to be completed by Sir Charles Trevelyan, who is, we believe, his brother-in-law, and a very superior man.

The number of births in Paris for the last year, so far as they are made up, is 37,000, out of which near one-third (11,000) are illegitimate, so declared on the civil registry.

A proposition requesting the home government to grant to the Australian colonies their independence, created quite a hubbub in the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, lately.

The monthly returns of the Bank of France show a decrease in cash of 45,000,000 francs, and an increase in discounts of very nearly 46,000,000.

Mr. Tom Taylor has dramatised Dickens's last serial story, "A Tale of Two Cities," and it will be produced by Madame Celeste at the Lyceum Theatre, London.

At the London Westminster Police Court, lately, a woman was brought up on a charge of being drunk; this was her 107th appearance before the magistrates for the same offence.

M. Borne, a Dutch astronomer, has published a pamphlet to announce that the famous comet of Charles V., which was seen in 1558, will reappear in the month of August next.

The stud of horses now owned by the Emperor Napoleon is the largest and most valuable in the world. It consists of 320 of the finest animals ever seen together.

It is stated that when the twelve hundred clerks employed in the Bank of England leave the building in the evening, a detachment of troops march in to guard it during the night, although a burglar could not penetrate the solid vaults in six weeks.

Record of the Times.

Spectacles and windmills were invented in the year 1299. Great institutions, both!

Moses, an English tailor, has retired from business on \$900,000!

In 1547, his majesty, the King of France, first worked a pair of silk stockings.

The Mercantile Library, of New York, comprises about fifty-four thousand volumes.

There's a rare animal in Australia called the laughing jackass—very common here, though.

The total number of votes in the next Electoral College will be 306.

The draw of the railroad bridge, across the Cumberland River, weighs 640,000 pounds.

The total valuation of real estate in the city of New York is \$400,000,000.

A French farmer estimates that draining has increased his wheat crop 70 per cent.

The corn crop of Kentucky for 1859 is estimated as worth \$130,000,000.

In Baltimore 2800 persons are employed in opening, packing and sealing oysters.

The tea plant is cultivated in Louisiana without any difficulty.

The fishing bounty paid in Belfast (Maine) District, for the past year, amounts to \$33,732 96.

The fur trade of Minnesota has grown into consequence. A St. Paul paper estimates it at over a quarter of a million of dollars.

The lottery system in Maryland will be broken up by the "new code" adopted by the Legislature. The fact has caused, it is said, general rejoicing in Baltimore.

The water in an artesian well in rear of the Bay State House, Worcester, rises and falls at nearly uniform periods from day to day, the fluctuation being 11 1-2 feet—a phenomenon which no one seems able to explain.

A man in New Fairfield, Conn., named Stevens, recently bid off at an auction sale a package of old papers for a trifling sum, in which he found a soldier's land warrant, located in what is now the village of Batesville, Arkansas, and he sold it to a gentleman of that State for \$48,000.

The Auburn State Prison is overflowing. There are now in it 943, while the prison accommodations are intended for but 775. The cells are all occupied, and several rooms have been fitted up in which convicts are placed during the night, with a guard in attendance.

There are in Pennsylvania 11,485 public schools, 14,071 teachers, and 634,651 pupils. Including Philadelphia, the cost of tuition was \$2,047,861 92; of building expenses, \$531,413 81, and the whole expense of the system for the year, \$2,579,075 77.

To illustrate the facilities of travel which mark the present age, an Englishman said that during the present year he had eaten a sandwich on the top of the great pyramid in Egypt, drank the health of Queen Victoria on the verge of the crater of Vesuvius, and been rather sharply scolded by his wife on the summit of Mount Blanc.

The population of Canada is estimated to be exactly 3,000,000.

Active measures are being taken in Baltimore towards establishing an asylum for inebriates.

It is proposed to establish a line of steamers between Portland and Philadelphia.

The present style of ladies' dress—the low and behold style!

Mr. Wise makes a balloon ascent from Kingston, Canada, May 24th, the queen's birthday.

It is said that many capitalists are turning their attention to Minnesota as a wool-growing State.

The number of Methodist Episcopal communicants in the United States and Canada is 1,880,260.

Iowa had a large sorghum crop last year, and syrup of the value of over a million of dollars will be manufactured from it.

There are in New York ninety insurance companies, with a nominal capital of eighteen millions.

The valuable coal mines of Arkansas are now being extensively worked, and measures are in progress to transport large quantities of the coal to the New Orleans market.

Mr. David A. Demarest, who had been a subscriber to the New York Commercial Advertiser for sixty-three years, died at Nyack lately. He was ninety-six years of age.

Fifty years ago, not a pound of fine wool was raised in the United States, in Great Britain, or in any other country except Spain. In the latter country, the flocks were owned exclusively by the nobility or by the crown.

The Gonzales (Texas) Enquirer says that not less than one-fourth of a million of sheep have been brought into Texas from Mexico since the first of January, 1859, exclusive of those imported from Tennessee, Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas.

The income of the Aetna Fire Insurance Company at Hartford, for the past year, was about \$2,000,000, which is a large increase over any previous year. The losses sustained within the forty years which the company has been in existence are \$13,000,000.

The crop of grapes in California was less, last year, than in any previous season since 1853. This diminution was caused by unfavorable weather, the winter and spring frosts, the ravages of the cut-worm, and a generally unfavorable summer for the growth of fruit.

Twelfth Night cakes are mentioned in a public document of the year 1311, signed by the Bishop of Amiens. In those good old times, when the substantial cake was cut, a large portion was set aside for the Divine Infant and the Holy Mother, which was distributed among the poor.

The importation of rags into this country for the purpose of paper-making, is an extensive item. During the year 1857, we imported 44,482,080 pounds, valued at \$1,447,125, and making 69,461 bales; 35,591 bales were from Italy, and more than one third are entirely linen, the rest being a mixture of cotton and linen. About 200 bales were also imported from the cities of Hamburg and Bremen.

Merry-Making.

The Time that tries men's souls—Winter.

Second class base ball players are called *Muffins*, probably because they are dough heads.

The most unpopular of all postal arrangements—the whipping post.

Managerial axiom for the consideration of dead heads—"every seer is not a profit."

The arctic regions are well guarded by pole-ice everywhere there.

What book is it that is all bunions? Why, "Pilgrim's Progress?"

The Flight of Genius. Too frequently, the flight is the Attic.

Those periodicals are most likely to explode which haven't a spark of fire in or about them.

A rainy day for the production of long faces is equal to a dozen funerals and five bank panics.

A country editor translates the execution of a *grand pug* to "The execution of a grandfather."

The followers of Calvin found peace in their amens, and Europe found peace in its Amiens.

Remedy for fits. Buy your clothes at a slop-shop, and you will never have a fit afterwards.

Why is a miser like seasoned timber? Because he never gives.

"He is the greatest liar on (H) earth"—as the cockney said of the lap-dog he often saw lying before the fire.

What were the feelings of the Minotaur after devouring the king of Athens daughter?—He suffered from a lass-he-chewed.

Who was the fastest woman mentioned in the Bible? Herodias. She got a-head of John the Baptist, on a charger.

What is the difference between truth and eggs? "Truth crushed to earth will rise again," but eggs won't.

Before you buy "Port from the Wood," endeavor if possible to ascertain that the wood whence the wine is derived is not log-wood.

Some sharpers seem to act upon the assumption that, if they cheat a poor fellow out of his land, he has no *ground* for complaint.

Bald-headed men take a joke the more easily, because they are not at the trouble of getting it through their hair.

Some bachelors join the army because they like war, and some married men because they like peace.

The philosopher Frazer says that, "though a man without money is poor, a man with nothing but money is still poorer."

It is very well that the youth of our country should get high, but they should do so as the oaks do—by drinking water.

Byron was disenchanted when he saw his amorette eating. In other words, he faltered when youth and beauty were at steak.

One of our exchanges, intending to be severely classical, has a compositor who made it say in a late issue: "The rubicund was crossed, and rum was fluid no more."

Dobbs says tailors would make splendid dragoons—they charge so.

"A crack shot"—a marksman shooting through an aperture in a board fence.

Prentice contends that inveterate laziness is the best labor-saving machine ever invented.

A man may generally expect a domestic "breeze" when his wife begins to put on "airs."

The wrath of soldiers is greatest, we imagine, when it is in tents.

Fast youth are now called young gentlemen of accelerated gait.

Consumptives who swallow the cod-liver theory, are dose-ile creatures.

Why is a butcher's cart like his boots? Because he carries his calves there.

Be careful how you talk to a woman about bonnets, nurses, puddings, Parsons, or babies.

To make a handsome profit on boarders furnish them with strong butter and weak tea.

What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment, and once in a man's life? The latter M.

It is equally severe to say of a speech that it is wordy, as of music that it is Verdi!

Why is John Smith like a badly cooked buckwheat cake? Because he isn't Brown.

"Jim, how does the thermometer stand today?" "Ours stands on the mantel-piece, right again the plastering."

Why should potatoes grow better than other vegetables? Because they have eyes to see what they are doing.

Red-haired men ought to make the best troops, because they always carry their firelocks on their shoulders.

The last place in which one should look for the milk of human kindness is within the *pale* of civilization.

Holmes, after telling that a dog was shot for biting a woman's leg, said it was a pity to shoot a dog with such fine taste.

The difference between a lion and a boatman is very slight—the one has a roar, and the other is a rower.

Why is the first chicken of a brood like the foremast of a ship? Because its a little for'ard of the main-hatch.

Why is a blacksmith constantly deserving of confinement in a penitentiary? Because he is a forger by trade.

The first swallow-tail coat that old Sourby got, so displeased him that he starched the tails and used it for a boot jack.

Given the street and the hour, to find at once the number of children in the street. Beat a bass drum, or grind a hand organ.

A rascally old bachelor says a man frequently admits that he was in the wrong, but a woman never—she was "only mistaken."

If you want to have a man for your friend never get the ill will of his wife. Public opinion is the average prejudices of womankind.

A married lady being asked to waltz, gave the following appropriate answer: "No, thank you, sir; I have just as much hugging at home as I can attend to."

The Progress of Young America.



Tom's early efforts for independence delight his fond parent;



As also his strength and courage.



But his taste for decorating is not a source of joy to his mother.



His attempts to adorn himself fill his aunt with dismay.



Thomas's method of coloring his father's meerschaum, although rapid, is injudicious.



He exhibits too early a genius for art.

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE.
THE CHEAPEST MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD.



Whatever his faults, he is incapable of dissimulation.



His natural playfulness is sometimes exhibited on the hump;



Also on the best customers of his father, who begins to think something must be done with the boy.



Having made himself master of his father's accoutrements, he fires at the word—much anxiety on part of his mother.



Attempts the manual in the drawing-room—both parents seriously deliberate.



Poor Tom says when all factors would be continually

The Florist.

Without is neither gold nor green;
Within, for birds, the birch-logs sing;
Yet, summer-like, we sit between
The autumn and the spring.—J. G. WHITTING.

Moisture in Plant-Houses.

It is a great mistake, which even gardeners make, in keeping their greenhouses far too dry in the winter. A little reflection will easily show this. From the time the plants are housed till the time they go out, there is almost always a very great difference in the outside and inside temperature. So long as this is the case, the glass being much colder than the inside, condensation is perpetually going on; besides the heated air and moisture are constantly passing out through every nook and cranny, taking away an immense volume of moisture. Whenever your fires are strong, or a great difference exists between the external and internal temperature, see that there is no lack of moisture. If the house is low and small, by well damping the floor all over whenever dry, no harm will come; but if the houses are large and lofty, then evaporating pans should be placed on the flues and pipes, in addition to wetting the floor. One great benefit of shutters to houses consists in their preventing excessive condensation taking place during cold clear nights.

A Hint to Lovers of Flowers.

A most beautiful and easily-attained show of evergreens may be had by a very simple plan, which has been found to answer remarkably well on a small scale. If geranium branches, taken from luxuriant and healthy trees just before the winter sets in, be cut as for slips and immersed in soap-water, they will, after drooping for a few days, shed their leaves, put forth fresh ones, and continue in the finest vigor all the winter. By placing a number of bottles thus filled in a flower-basket, with moss to conceal the bottles, a show of evergreens is easily ensured for the whole season. They require no fresh water.

Begonia Incarnata.

This is another plant which should be mentioned here, it now being the season when calis are constantly made for bouquets and cut flowers. The begonia produces through the winter months a profusion of flowers, the color of which is good by artificial light. Its real color, as its name implies, is a beautiful flesh, inclining to pink; while it is sometimes found nearly white. It is very easily struck from cuttings at any season of the year, but is best done in February or March. When struck, pot off into small pots, and stop any growth likely to take the lead.

Petunia Imperialis.

This novelty first became known here in 1856, being sent from the Royal Nursery, Slough, England. It has now become a great favorite, though not at all common. It is as double as a fine carnation; and as it is disposed to bloom abundantly, with a short, stout, vigorous habit, it will become a great favorite for "pot culture." The specimen we saw was white, very double and sweet-scented. Its fragrance partakes something of the ten-week stock. They are very suitable for parlor plants, and if properly treated, will bloom abundantly all winter.

Smilacina.

The false quassia. Stove plants with showy flowers, natives of the West Indies, nearly allied to quassia.

30

The Polyanthus.

As a greenhouse plant, to arrange and give variety with Chinese primulas, pansies, daisies, etc., the beautiful polyanthus is well adapted. There are several double kinds, with white, yellow, copper, salmon, lilac, purple and variegated flowers, all of which would do well, besides many single kinds with exquisite markings. This plant, it is well known, forms one of the number of plants usually termed by Europeans, "Florists' Flowers," all of which are single, and somewhat too tender for general cultivation. The only difficulty lies in summer, and which nearly vanishes, if the old roots are parted in the spring. For soil, use good turfy loam, slightly sandy; if destitute of vegetable matter, add a little well rotted leaf mould or rotten manure. If this the plant will grow to perfection, and afford an abundance of flowers.

Common flowering Plants.

There is nothing too common, or betokening stinginess, want of taste or poverty, in having the oldest and simplest plant well grown and bloomed in a pot; everybody loves to see them. Look in almost any extensive greenhouse, and you will see a fair proportion of the plants are those common to almost any garden. Not one of them but the poorest man in the next village might have at his window, and yet everybody admires them. Fashion, as in all other things, devotes most care to costly plants; but will anybody say that a window filled with verbenas, violets, mignonettes, convolvuli and asters does not look as bright and pleasant as one in which we see Japan lilies, Cape jasmines, isopogon, hibbertia, and other rare and expensive flowers?

Roses.

We will give here the names of a few roses, which have been thoroughly tested:—Chippetownkoff, a large deep crimson blossom; Jules Margottin, one of the hardest roses under cultivation, bearing a bright crimson flower; Rosina Margottini, a very fragrant blossom, deep carmine, which opens best in showery weather; Madame Rigeaux, dark pink tinged with white, a moderate grower, but should find a place in every garden or greenhouse; Lord Raglan, this is one of the darkest crimson roses known, as in some parts it approaches a black—it is a hardy and vigorous grower.

Ximenesia.

Annual and perennial flowers, natives of Mexico, with brilliant yellow flowers, which will grow in any common garden soil. They are coarse growing but very showy. There are two biennial species, which should be kept in a frame during winter, and transplanted to the open border in the spring.

Volkameria.

Nearly all the plants formerly included in this genus have been removed to clerodendrum, and it now contains only two species—one stove-shrub, with white flower from the West Indies, and the other a half-hardy tree, with beautiful purple flowers, from Nepal.

Eucalyptus.

Australian trees of enormous size, some species of which are grown in England as greenhouse shrubs. They should be grown in loam and peat, and are propagated by cuttings which are very difficult to strike.

Symplocoscaespias.

Michaux's name for the common snowberry—a name very slightly known and rarely used.

Curious Matters.

Singular Suffering.

Theodore Rougeot recently died in Bangor, Maine, after a life of singular suffering. When thirteen years of age he was taken with inflammatory rheumatism, and was almost helpless for two years; he then recovered, but in two years thereafter was attacked again, and continued entirely helpless and confined to his bed for eighteen years! There was but one joint (that of one thumb) that he could move. He was obliged to be bolstered up in bed in one position, partly in a sitting posture, for the eighteen years; he could talk and read well, but could not otherwise stir or move; his food was made very fine, and sucked up or mumbled over in his mouth, as his jaws were immovable; he was nothing but skin and bone, yet his appetite and general health were good. His mind was clear, his memory good, and he was a person of considerable intelligence and quite a reader. He lived with his parents a couple of miles from Bangor, and was kindly cared for by a patient and attentive mother and other relatives during his long and tedious illness.

Wonderful.

The Charleston Courier publishes an account of a remarkable African boy, living in Savannah, blind, and in feature resembling an idiot. His only wonderful gift is the power of musical composition and execution, and this is entirely natural. He plays upon the piano forte, and has only to hear a piece once to re-produce it, not only accurately, but with the same shades of expression which the performer gave to it. His touch is said to be wonderfully delicate, while at the same time it has great force. That the boy's talent is not alone a development of the faculty of memory and the power of imitation, is shown by his improvisations, which the paper alluded to commends as of exceeding beauty. The countenance of the child when he is not under the influence of music is said to be almost repulsive, vacant and ugly. But the moment his fingers call the sound from his instrument, his face lights up with inspiration, and becomes absolutely beautiful.

Kitten reared by a Ferret.

A laborer some years since having a female ferret, with four young ones about a week old, and requiring food for them, robbed a cat of a kitten of about the same age, and threw it into the hutch, expecting it to be immediately killed. To his surprise, as soon as it began to cry the ferret placed it with its young, suckled it, and it thrived, and became a fine cat. After it grew up it was always partial to the ferrets, and they were often seen at play together. Another laborer informed us that he had a cat which, being deprived of its kittens, suckled a young rabbit that he had brought it about a fortnight old, and that the rabbit and its foster mother gambolled together, to the great amusement of his children and others.

The Robin.

In one of Mary Russell Mitford's fairylike notes, written within three weeks of her death, she says:—"I am sometimes wheeled from my faulds to the window; and about a month ago a redbreast came to that window and tapped. Of course we answered the appeal by fixing a little tray outside the window-sill, and keeping it well supplied with bread and crumbs; and now he not only comes himself, but has introduced his kinsfolk and friends. Think how great a pleasure!"

Fickleness of Fortune.

The Albany Standard relates the following instance of vicissitude of fortune:—"A few years ago one of the most active and successful business men in the city of Hudson was Leonard Wells. Everything he touched turned into money. He once made \$10,000 in an hour by a purchase and sale of a piece of real estate. Fifteen years ago Mr. Wells was worth \$70,000. Shortly after he turned against him. He lost \$31,000 by buying stock in the Hudson and Berkshire Railroad. This was followed by other losses caused by endorsements. In less than eighteen months Mr. Wells passed from affluence to extreme poverty—from being worth \$70,000, to being worth not one cent. Mr. Wells is now a resident of Albany, and earns a living for himself and family by peddling candies, apples and doughnuts. We are happy to say that he bears the decrees of fate with becoming philosophy. He is as cheerful to-day as he was when he was known as a 'man of fortune.' He earns an honest living, and is determined to enjoy it."

Curious Casualty.

A singular and truly afflicting casualty occurred in Oimstead, Cuyahoga county, New York, lately. A bright little lad of three or four years of age, son of Mr. Briggs, wishing to see the men dress hogs, his mother put on his cloak, and the father placed him in the branches of an apple tree, where he could look on and be out of the way. The child was perched near by his father, and directly over where persons frequently passed to bring hot water, etc. Nothing unusual was observed, but when, after some time, the father lifted down his little son, to his horror he found him dead! The cloak had caught on a limb and strangled the child.

Effects of Chicory upon the Eyes.

It has been observed in Vienna, that those employed in chicory-grinding are much troubled with affections of the eyes; and J. W. Slater, in a lecture delivered at the Mechanics' Institution, Sheffield, England, has stated that a young man of that town, by trade a coffee-roaster, was in the habit of reading for two hours at night, after concluding his work. Whenever he has been roasting chicory he finds himself unable to read—not from an outward irritation of the eye, but, as he phrases it, from a feeling of "deadness" in that organ. All this serves to prove that chicory has a specifically injurious effect upon the optic nerve.

A malicious Will.

A very odd case of petty malice in will-making was that of a man who, not having a penny in the world, left a will, in which he bequeathed to his friends and acquaintances large estates in various parts of England, money in the funds, rings, jewels and plate. His inducement was the prospect of the delight of his friends at first learning about the rich possessions which were to be theirs, and then the bitter disappointment at finding how they had been hoaxed.

Geological Fact.

An artesian well in Savannah was bored to the depth of 980 feet, a year since, when an obstruction was met it was impossible to penetrate or remove by pressure. Several hundred tons weight were placed on the tubing, and there they rested for nearly a year without any effect. On the day before the shock of earthquake felt in South Carolina and Georgia Dec. 20, however, the weights triumphed, and the tubing sunk thirty feet below the ground.

Curious Discovery.

The *Bulletin de l'Institut Egyptien* states that Mr. Marette lately found near a mummy discovered at Thebes various curious articles, amongst which were these:—Ten gold bracelets for the legs, two other bracelets formed of pearls put on gold threads, another of gold, well executed, bearing mythological symbols; a gold diadem ornamented with mosaics and surmounted by two sphinxes, a mirror with gold ornaments, a figure of a king standing in a boat with two divinities pouring water on his head and two birds flying above him; a figure of a boat in gold, containing ten silver figures of sailors rowing and one of a person singing at the prow; a poniard with a gold scabbard, the blade being the finest specimen of Egyptian workmanship yet discovered, and containing encrusted in it a piece of bronze, on which are various ornaments and hieroglyphs; and a hatchet, the blade of which is in gold, and the handle ornamented with gold.

A French Belle a Hundred Years ago.

Madame de Genlis, in her *Mémoire*, describes the training she underwent to fit her for Parisian society in the last century:—"I had two teeth pulled out; I had whalebone stays that pinched me terribly; my feet were imprisoned in tight shoes, with which it was impossible for me to walk; I had three or four thousand curl-papers put on my head, and I wore, for the first time in my life, a hoop. In order to get rid of my country attitudes, I had an iron collar put on my neck; and, as I squinted a little at times, I was obliged to put on goggles as soon as I awoke in the morning, and these I wore for hours. I was, moreover, not a little surprised when they talked of giving me a master to teach me what I thought I knew well enough already—to walk. Besides all this, I was forbidden to run, to leap, or to ask questions."

Romantic Marriage.

A marriage, which has been brought about in a very romantic manner, was celebrated at St. John's Episcopal Chapel, Greenock, Scotland, lately. Mr. Thomas Pendred, of Dublin, a member of the orchestra of the Theatre Royal, was on board the royal mail steamer *Perseus* last summer on a voyage from New York, when a lady passenger, Miss Marie Kohl, of Berne, Switzerland, fell overboard, the ship then being under full steam. Mr. Pendred leaped after her, and was the means of saving her life, and this gallant action led to the happy event which has taken place.

Lightning and Fish.

Throughout the West Indies, on mornings after a display of sheet-lightning, immense quantities of needle-shaped fish are found congregated at the mouths of rivers. The first day after the lightning they are caught and sold in the markets, and are then a delicate food. The second day they are still found, but more developed, having become larger, coarser, and having black heads. They are then but little eaten. The fact is undeniable that these creatures appear after sheet-lightning, and at no other time.

Strange Custom.

A peculiar custom prevails at Norham, Durham, that if the banns of marriage be thrice published, and the marriage does not take place, the refusing party, whether male or female, pays forty shillings to the vicar, as a penalty for "scorning the Church."

Sagacity of the Bear.

That wild beasts of all kinds are scared away by fire is a well known fact; but the hungry bear is of so cunning a nature, that it even sets at defiance the flaming circle, which would at other times afford a secure protection to the sleeping traveller. It is true that the bear does not venture to cross the fiery barrier, but it contrives to avoid the difficulty in a most ingenious manner. Going to the nearest stream, it immerses itself in the water so as to saturate its fur with moisture, and then returning to the spot where the intended prey lies asleep, the animal rolls over the flaming embers, quenching the fire, and then makes its attack upon the sleeper. This curious fact is well known among the natives of Siberia, so that they have good grounds for the respect in which they hold the bear's intellectual powers.

The Bird of the Tolling Bell.

Among the highest woods and deepest glens of Brazil a sound is sometimes heard, so singular that the noise seems quite unnatural; it is like the distant and solemn tolling of a church-bell struck at intervals. This extraordinary noise proceeds from the arawonda. The bird sits at the top of the highest trees in the deepest forests, and though constantly heard in the most desert places, it is very rarely seen. It is impossible to conceive anything of more solitary character than the profound silence of the woods, broken only by the meadow and almost supernatural sound of this invisible bird, coming from the air, and seeming to follow wherever you go. The arawonda is white, with a circle of red round its eyes; its size is about that of a small pigeon.

Somnambulism.

The majority of mankind are inclined to believe that a sleep-walker is guided by a providential instinct, which leads him safely across parapets, along the edges of precipices, and through fordable streams, landing him unharmed on the safe side. Many surprising feats of this kind have, indeed, been accomplished, but they must be regarded as exceptional. Recently, an American editor of high repute took a fatal leap from a precipice whilst in a state of somnambulism; and a young man in London, whilst sleep-walking, raised the window of his room, and leaped into the street, fatally fracturing his skull. Those who behold a sleep-walker should not restrain, either from motives of tenderness or curiosity, from waking the sleeper. It is wrong to do so abruptly; but the unfortunate person should be carefully and gently roused.

A Dog with a wooden Leg.

Mr. Robert Howard, landlady of the Railway Inn, near the Droylsden Railway station, England, has in his possession a Scotch terrier with a wooden leg, which runs about with a scarcely perceptible limp. The dog had its right fore foot amputated by an express train several months ago, and a veterinary surgeon from Manchester being informed that it was a favorite pet, not only dressed its wounds, but shortly afterwards supplied it with an artificial limb, of which it appears somewhat proud.

Remarkable.

Miss Phoebe Newbegin, who died in Nantucket, lately, at the advanced age of 92 years 8 months, leaves a sister nearly 90 years of age, with whom she has slept every night for eighty-eight years, with the exception of three weeks during childhood, when Mary, the surviving sister, went to Newburyport with her mother. The deceased never left the island.

The Housewife.

Clinkers in Stoves.

Persons troubled with clinkers adhering to the lining of their stoves or furnaces, may be interested in knowing, says the *Scientific American*, that by placing a few oyster shells in the grate, while the fire is ignited, the clinkers will soon become loosened so as to be readily removed without the danger of breaking the lining. We have tried this remedy; and while the chemical action is involved in mystery, it accomplished the result to our satisfaction.

Vermicelli Pudding.

Soak four ounces of vermicelli in cold water for one hour; pour the water off, put on the fire with a quart of sweet milk, shake it till it boils, draw it aside until the milk is all soaked in. Beat up four eggs with two ounces of sugar; mince two ounces of lemon-peel. Mix all together, and bake in a pudding-dish. If boiled, it will require six eggs instead of four. Put in a buttered shape, and boil two hours.

Gingerade.

Take Jamaica ginger-root, two and a half ounces; boiling water, one pint; lump sugar, two and a half pounds; citric acid, two drachms; bruise the ginger-root, infuse it four hours in the water, and to the strained liquor add the sugar, and dissolve it with the aid of heat; remove the scum, and lastly add the citric acid.

A plain Custard.

Boil a pint of new milk, keeping a little back to mix with a tablespoonful of flour. Thicken the milk with the flour, let it cool a little, and then add one egg well beaten. Sweeten to taste. Set it on the fire again and stir until the egg burns, but do not let it boil. A little lemon or almond may be added.

How to preserve Ladies' Furs.

Fine furs should be kept in a cold place. An experienced dealer will tell, the moment he puts his hand on a piece of fur, if it has been lying in a warm, dry atmosphere; it renders the fur harsh, dry and shabby, entirely destroying the rich, smooth softness which it will have if kept in a cold room.

Vel Broth.

Clean half a pound of small eels, and set them on with three pints of water, some parsley, one slice of onion, a few peppercorns; let them simmer till the eels are broken, and the broth good, or reduced to a pint and a half. Add salt, and strain it off. It is very nutritious.

Beef Tea.

Cut one pound of fleshy beef in thin slices; simmer with a quart of water an hour and a half after it has once boiled and been skinned. Season, if approved; but it wants generally only a little salt.

Essence of Ginger.

Bruise four ounces of Jamaica ginger, and put it into a pint of rectified spirits of wine. Let it remain a fortnight, then press and filter it. A little essence of ginger may be added, if wished.

Eggs.

An egg broken into a cup of tea, or beaten and mixed with a basin of milk, makes a breakfast more supporting than tea alone.

To keep Beds well aired.

Nothing more is necessary than to fill a large stone bottle with boiling water, and to put it into the bed, which, with the bolster and pillows, should be pressed round it in a head. It is astonishing the number of hours it will be found warm. By this simple contrivance no one need fear giving a friend a damp bed, even if it is only done once a fortnight. Care must be taken to have the bottle well corked, and, to prevent accidents, it would be as well to tie it down.

Arrowroot.

It is very necessary to be careful not to get the counterfeited sort; if genuine, it is very nourishing, especially for persons with weak bowels. Put into a saucepan half a pint of water, a glass of sherry, or a spoonful of brandy, grated nutmeg, and fine sugar; boil up once, then mix it by degrees into a dessert spoonful of arrowroot, previously rubbed smooth with two spoonfuls of cold water.

Hair Wash.

Get one ounce of borax, half an ounce of camphor, powder them finely, and dissolve them in one quart of boiling water. When cold the solution will be ready for use. Damp the hair with this frequently. It not only cleanses and beautifies, but strengthens the hair, preserves the color, and prevents early baldness.

Bread Cheesecakes.

Slice a small loaf as thin as possible; pour on it a pint of boiling cream; when well soaked beat it very fine; add eight eggs, half a pound of butter, a grated nutmeg, half a pound of currants, a spoonful of brandy or white wine; beat them up well together, and bake in raised crusts or party-pans.

To clean Alabaster.

For cleaning alabaster, there is nothing better than soap and water. Stains may be removed by washing with soap and water, then whitewashing the stained part, letting it stand some hours, then rinsing off the whitewash and rubbing the part stained.

Bread Omelet.

Put in a large teacup of bread crumbs, a teacup of cream, a spoonful of butter, with salt, pepper and nutmeg; when the bread has absorbed the cream, break in the eggs, beat them a little with the mixture, and fry like omelet.

Rhubarb Jam.

To seven pounds of rhubarb add four sweet oranges and five pounds of sugar. Peel and cut up the rhubarb. Put in the thin peel of the oranges and the pulp, after taking out the seeds and all the whites. Boil all together for one hour and a half.

Blusing for Clothes.

Take one ounce of soft Prussian blue, powder it, and put it into a bottle with one quart of clear rain water, and a quarter of an ounce of oxalic acid powdered. A teaspoonful is sufficient for a large washing.

To clean Gold Lace.

Gold lace is easily cleaned and restored to its original brightness by rubbing it with a soft brush dipped in roche alum burnt, sifted to a very fine powder.

Seed Cake.

Beat one pound of butter to a cream, adding gradually a quarter of a pound of sifted sugar, beating both together; have ready the yolks of eighteen eggs, and the whites of ten, beaten separately; mix in the whites first, and then the yolks, and beat the whole for ten minutes; add two grated nutmegs, one pound and a half of flour, and mix them very gradually with the other ingredients; when the oven is ready, beat in three ounces of picked caraway-seeds.

Ginger Cordial.

This is made with the essence of ginger. It is preferred colored, and therefore may be well prepared by simple digestion. One drachm will be found to be enough for two gallons of spirit. The addition of two or three drops each of essence of lemon and orange-peel, with a spoonful of essence of cardamoms to each gallon, will improve it. If wanted dark, it may be colored with burnt sugar. The quantity of sugar is one and a half pounds to the gallon.

For a Cough.

Procure a small quantity of Peruvian bark at a chemist's where you have reason to believe a genuine article may be obtained, and, on the very first symptoms of irritation of the throat, and disposition towards what is termed "hacking," chew a piece about the size of a bean. This will at once relieve; and, on recurrence of the symptoms, apply the same remedy. Two or three doses will cure.

Queen Cake.

Mix one pound of dried flour, the same of sifted sugar and washed currants; wash one pound of butter in rose-water, beat it well, then mix with it eight eggs, yolks and whites beaten separately, and put in the dry ingredients by degrees; beat the whole an hour; butter little tins, teacups, or saucers, filling them only half full; sift a little fine sugar just as you put them into the oven.

Cranberry Pudding.

Boil one pint and a half of cranberries cleared of the stalks in four ounces of sugar and water, until they are broken, and form a kind of jam; make up a large ball of it; cover it well with rice washed clean and dry; then round each fold a floured piece of cloth, which tie as for dumplings. Boil them one hour; sift sugar over when served, and butter in a boat.

Peppermint Cordial.

Take thirteen gallons of rectified spirit, one in five under hydrometer proof, twelve pounds of loaf sugar, one pint of spirit of wine that will fire gunpowder, fifteen pennyweights of oil of peppermint, and as much water as will fill up the cask, which should be set on end after the whole has been well roused. Enough for twenty gallons.

A rich Christmas Pudding.

One pound of raisins stoned, one pound of currants, half a pound of beef-suet, quarter of a pound of sugar, two spoonfuls of flour, three eggs, a cup of sweetmeats, and a wineglass of brandy. Mix well, and boil in a mould eight hours.

Parisian Mode of roasting Apples.

Select the largest apples, scoop out the core without cutting quite through; fill the hollow with butter and fine soft sugar; let them roast in a slow oven, and serve up with the syrup.

Ginger Pudding.

To half a pound of flour add a quarter of a pound of suet shred very fine, a quarter of a pound of moist sugar, and two large teaspoonfuls of grated ginger; mix together, turn dry into a basin either buttered or dipped into cold water; tie the cloth over very tight, and boil three hours. This is a pudding within everybody's reach.

German Puffs.

A quarter of a pound of almonds beaten very fine in a mortar with rose-water, six eggs well beaten, leaving out two of the whites, two spoonfuls of flour, two ounces of butter, a little nutmeg, and six ounces of sugar all well mixed with a pint of cream, baked in buttered pastry-pans, served with wine sauce.

Antidote against Poison.

Hundreds of lives might have been saved by a knowledge of this simple receipt:—A large teaspoonful of made mustard mixed in a tumbler of warm water, and swallowed as soon as possible. It acts as an instant emetic, sufficiently powerful to remove all that is lodged in the stomach.

To make Icinglass Size.

This may also be prepared in the manner above directed for the glue, by increasing the proportion of the water for dissolving it, and the same holds good of parchment size. A better sort of the common size may be likewise made by treating cuttings of gloves' leather in the same manner.

Worth Knowing.

Boil three or four onions in a pint of water. Then with a glazing brush do over your glasses and frames, and rest assured that the flies will not light on the articles washed. This may be used without apprehension, as it will do not the least injury to the frames.

Raspberry Vinegar.

To every quart of raspberries put one pint of best vinegar. Stir them twice a day for three days, then strain off the liquor. To each pint put one pound of loaf sugar. Boil it half an hour, and skim it well; then bottle and cork it close.

To season new Earthenware.

Before using, place it in a boiler with cold water, and then heat it gradually, and let it remain in till the water is cool. This will render it less liable to crack, especially if used for baking in.

Lotion for a Sprain.

Take of camphorated spirit, common vinegar, spirits of turpentine, of each one ounce. Or else take compound soap liniment, one ounce and a half; hædanum, half an ounce; mix.

Icing for a Plum Cake.

Take the white of an egg, a quarter of a pound of loaf-sugar, and a teaspoonful of gum dragon, melted. Mix them into a paste, and lay it on the cake.

Red Ink from woollen Table-Covers.

Dissolve in three ounces of hot water one drachm of oxalic acid; apply it warm to the ink spots, and they will quickly disappear.

Bleeding at the Nose.

A piece of brown paper folded and placed between the upper lip and the gum will stop bleeding at the nose.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

WRESTLING WITH AN ELEPHANT.

A rather curious scene has occurred in Black-burn, England, during a performance in a menagerie. A young man, who had for some time been carefully observing the monster elephant, determined, like a fighting gladiator of old to try the strength of the huge bulk of flesh with his own. There is at the end of the elephant's tusks, which are of large size, an iron rod, binding one tusk to the other. Our hero seized hold of this, and began to lean with his whole weight upon it. The elephant, not altogether liking this sort of treatment, determined for his part to punish his audacious antagonist. He raised his great head aloft, and the young fellow was swung from the ground until he almost touched the canvas covering, and was no doubt much higher than his most wild ambition ever carried him. The animal repeated this, and a second time he descended to the ground, when the elephant, perhaps, thinking it best to temper justice with mercy, wrapped his trunk round the hapless and now thoroughly humbled youth, and very unceremoniously laid him in the mud that overspread the floor. The wrestle was ended, the elephant coming off the victor, while his combatant picked himself up and, amidst the hearty laughter of the spectators, vanished. Of course the Englishman was worsted; but our Dr. Windship would have hung that critter into the middle of next week.

“THE WELCOME GUEST.”—The largest and best literary weekly paper in America is *The Welcome Guest*. Four cents per copy, everywhere. This paper is particularly calculated for the family, and will grace any parlor in the land, and gladden any fireside with its delightful tales, sketches, adventures, poems, and selections from all the new books of the day. *It is not a sensation paper*, yet you will be loth to lay it down until you have read every line!

PATENTED.—A Yankee's invention for extracting the lies from quack advertisements has been patented.

THEY OUGHT.—The assayers at the mint ought to be good boatmen, owing to their experience in handling the ores.

RIDING WITH A LADY.

The author of “Habits of Good Society” says that when you are riding on horseback in company with a lady you ought always to ride on the right of her, “lest you risk crushing her feet.” An American writer says this settles a long-vaed question. But he is mistaken. In England, it is the custom to turn out to the left of the road in passing vehicles; here, to the right. If, in this country, you are on the right side of the lady, she runs the risk of being spattered, or having her skirt caught in the wheels. But if you ride on her left you protect her in these cases, and, moreover, have your right, or strongest hand at liberty to assist her in case of any difficulty with her horse. As to the danger of your crowding her feet, if you are not horseman enough to keep your proper distance, you should never undertake to ride with a lady. We consider that we have settled the question.

SPRING WEATHER.—With the coming spring weather, hundreds of delicate persons in New England will contract the seeds of consumption, a fact that is annually impressed upon all observing people. Is it not a duty to be on our guard against this terrible enemy? On the first symptoms of cough or cold, let that specific, Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry, be at once resorted to, and relief will as promptly follow. No family in our peculiar climate should be without the Balsam always at hand in their houses.

VERY PLEASANT.—It must be very pleasant for a young gentleman soft enough to ask a young lady what she thinks of his moustache, to have her reply, “O, it's nice! Just like the down on the wings of a butterfly!”

PRODIGIOUS.—A Cincinnati editor says that he has many a time seen a man on skates jump twenty-four feet. Lucky he didn't say yards, for then we might not have believed him!

JUST SO.—It is very well for little children to be lambs, but a very bad thing for them to grow up sheep.

COPPER MINE.—A new copper mine has been discovered in Bristol, Connecticut.

PROPAGATION OF OYSTERS.

For the last two years, the emperor, Louis Napoleon, has been causing artificial oyster beds to be made in the Bay of Saint Brieuc, and already the results have surpassed the dreams of the most ambitious hope. The parent oysters, the old shells with which the bottom of the bay is paved, everything, in short, which the drag brings up, is laden with young oyster-fry—the shingle of the beach itself is covered with it. The fascines bear, on every branch and on their smallest twigs, bunches of oysters in such extreme profusion that they resemble the apple and pear tree in an orchard, whose boughs are hidden, in spring, beneath the exuberance of their blossoms. You might take them to be petrifications of some exuberant fossil seeds or buds. As such a marvel obtains easier credence by sight than by hearsay, specimens have been sent to Paris to bear irrefutable testimony to the fact. The young oysters hanging to the twigs are already from three-quarters of an inch to an inch and a quarter in breadth. They are therefore fruits which have only to ripen to give in eighteen months a most abundant return. It appears from this that oysters grow much quicker than is imagined. There are as many as twenty thousand oysterlings on a single fascine, which takes up no more room in the water than a sheaf of wheat does in a cornfield. Now, twenty thousand oysters, when they have reached the edible state, represents the value of four hundred francs, their price current being twenty francs the thousand, sold on the spot. The returns from this industry are consequently inexhaustible, because collecting apparatus can be submerged to any extent, and every adult oyster belonging to a bed is the parent of from one to three millions of fry. Speaking of oysters, Louis Napoleon is very fond of them. He likes them on the shell with a drop of vinegar and salt, a little cayenne pepper, and a squeeze of lemon. The Empress Eugenie prefers them stewed. We like them both ways.

A MISTAKE.—It is common to speak of those whom a flirt has jilted as her victims, this is a grave error; her real victim is the man she accepts.

LIBERAL.—The St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Society have resolved to offer a premium list of \$20,000 for their next fair.

GOOD PAY.—Tom Taylor received \$250 an act for his last dramatization.

A TRUTH.—Pride is as loud a beggar as Want, but is much more insolent.

AGRICULTURE AT YALE COLLEGE.

To see Yale College stepping out from among the mists of antiquity and the graves of dead languages, and "taking up the shovel and the hoe," is certainly one of the signs of the times. She made her debut on this new stage on the 1st day of February, having secured the services of twenty-five leading agriculturists to sustain her in this first effort. These gentlemen are to take up all possible subjects connected with agriculture for the benefit of farmers and gardeners, young and old, and for their own material enlightenment. There are to be three lectures a day for the space of a month, each lecture to be followed by questions and a discussion. The list of names, in which we find Marshall P. Wilder, late President of the National Agricultural Society, Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, Lewis F. Allen, Esq., of New York, and other eminent men, besides Professors Silliman, Porter and Johnson, of Yale College, give the highest character to the undertaking. The advantages of this course are offered so cheaply (\$10 for a course ticket), that it will draw together large numbers. The idea involved in this enterprise, namely, getting together educational capital by small contributions of knowledge from large numbers, is an important discovery. We do not see why it is not susceptible of very extensive and varied application.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—Late English papers say the Prince of Wales will sail for Canada at the latter end of May or early in June, in the line-of-battle ship Renown, 91 guns. The suite that will attend his royal highness has not yet been arranged, but everything connected with this visit, it is stated, will be conducted on a scale worthy of the mother country, and calculated to do honor to the American colonies.

NEWSPAPER NOVELTY.—It is mentioned, as the latest novelty in newspapers, that in addition to "births, marriages and deaths," some of the English country papers now add the "divorces."

VIRGINIA IRON.—The iron manufactured at Wheeling, Va., in 1859, sold for upwards of two millions of dollars. Old Virginia is fast becoming a rival with Pennsylvania in producing iron.

REMOVAL.—We have removed our publishing office up one flight of stairs in the same building, No. 22 Winter Street.

NEW WORD.—A new word has been coined for the lady amateurs of skating—they are called skateresses.

THE OLD AND THE NEW.

Nothing more forcibly strikes the American traveller in Europe, when he goes abroad for the first time, and traverses the streets of the continental cities, than the time-worn character of nearly all the buildings, public and private, that meet his eye. In the old Dutch, in the old Italian, in the old German, Spanish and French towns and cities, he beholds everywhere the traces of venerable age: moss-grown roofs, crumbling house-fronts, with the date of some former century on their gables—"stoned themselves to ruin grown." Hardly is there an exception to this. Paris alone, of all the great continental cities, exhibits what we Americans call go-ahead-iveness. And he learns, on inquiry, that this peculiar steadfastness permeates all society. He will find the same family exercising the same trade for generation after generation, just as the same family occupies a throne for centuries. Even in England he will find certain official costumes, absurd enough at the time of their introduction, surviving all the changes of fashion, the most unstable of human things—chancellors and judges invested with big wigs, and beef-eaters wearing the puffed trunk-hose, and carrying the halberds of the days of bluff King Harry of wife-killing memory. You may revisit the old places of which we speak after an absence of years, and you will find nothing changed.

But in this country an entirely different state of things is noticeable. There conservatism; here, change. There the struggle is to maintain the old; here the constant strife is to introduce the new. With us, there seems to be an almost morbid craving for novelty—in architecture, in dress, in literature, in domestic economy, in everything. How few relics of the revolutionary past, the heroic days of our history, remain! Scarcely, in each of our great cities, are there two or three of those buildings left which were silent witnesses of the struggles of our strife for independence; and of these but very few that the public generally do not regard as eyesores. Are there any lines of circumvallation or of breastwork left in some rural locality, the rude defences thrown up by our yeoman ancestry when they "bared their foreheads to the God of battles," the ploughshare must fill up or level them, not because they are annoyances, but because they are old. This fever for novelty has torn down many a substantial old house of worship that might have stood for a century longer, to give room for some new edifice divested of all the hallowed and hallowing associations that clung round the old. Old trees are hated because they are old. Even old men are only

permitted to live on sufferance. They are not treated with the respect formerly accorded to age on account of its wisdom, and its experience of suffering and joy. Old America feels this keenly, and disguises its age as far and as long as possible. We have seen octogenarians in tight French boots and dyed moustaches, and it is very common for old men of seventy to cultivate gymnastics and learn the Schottische and German. The revival of the *Minuet de la Cour*, with its slow and stately movements, must be a blessing to these old coves, for gout and rheumatism are sad drawbacks in the whirlings of the waltz and the vigorous stampings of the polka, danced as it ought to be. We may smile at these endeavors of superannuated beaux to keep pace with the rapid boiling current of juvenility, but it is unjust to do so, for they are only obeying the law of inexorable necessity. Longevity in the eyes of Young America is unjustifiable. It is true that there is no statute against it, but the canons of society condemn it mercilessly.

The disciples of the new school, it is true, meet the old foggies with pitiless logic. They assert that all the great achievements of the world have been accomplished by young men, and prate to you about Napoleon the First, and a host of other brilliant boys. They go so far as to say that the men who fought our Revolutionary battles were by no means old, in spite of their three-cornered hats and knee breeches. And it must be confessed that there is some reason on their side.

Yet we must beware of a blind enthusiasm for the new. All that is new is not true, and all that is true is not new. Along the path of the centuries there rise, from space to space, immortal monuments of greatness that can never be surpassed—the pyramids of Egypt, the marbles of Greece, the pictures of Italy, the poems of Homer and Milton, and Shakspeare, the modern world can never hope to surpass or even equal these. And it is well, for the sake of association, to preserve, here and there, links which bind the present to the past. Let us not break down all the bridges behind us, bridges that have carried us safely over.

NEW YORK AGAINST FRANCE!—The whole of France—a nation of thirty-six millions of inhabitants—only appropriates as much money to common schools as does the city of New York alone—something like six millions of francs!

DENSE POPULATION.—The little island of Barbadoes is the most densely populated country in the world. With an area of 166 square miles, it contains 125,864 inhabitants.

ANESTHESIA.

The new method of producing anesthesia by hypnotism, was recently tried in the Mauritian Hospital at Turin, by Dr. Pertusio, with perfect success, upon a young woman aged 18. The brilliant object held before her eyes was a gold seal-ring. After the lapse of twelve minutes, the patient said that she felt sleepy; she was then bid to shut her eyes, which she immediately did. After some preliminary trials, her state of insensibility being at length ascertained, the operation of extirpating a tumor, which she had, was proceeded with, the patient remaining passive, and not betraying the slightest symptom of pain. Nevertheless, she continued to reply to the questions put to her, and even commenced a conversation herself on matters quite foreign to the operation. She was awoken by blowing on her face after the wound was dressed.

Photographers and daguerreotypists used to direct their sitters to fix their eyes on some bright object, such as a spot of light on a glass globe, in order to keep the eyes steady, and this accounts for the sleepy look of the pictures taken when it was necessary, as in the infancy of the art, to sit several minutes. And speaking of hypnotism, we read lately of an experiment tried on a hen. The bird was placed on a bench painted bright green, and a line was drawn with a piece of chalk across the top of the bench, commencing with the bill of the bird. The hen, gazing fixedly on this line, soon became stupid and fell into a deep sleep, from which she was not aroused even by sticking pins into her body. Years ago, we tried this experiment on a superannuated Shanghai rooster with complete success, but did not try the experiment of sticking pins into its body, our purpose simply being amusement, and not science. But scientific men have no scruples. Dr. Mussey, some years ago, used to puncture the eyes of cats and inject the oil of tobacco, to show how deleterious tobacco was to human beings. We never saw the logic of the deduction, and remember thinking the experiment cruel—as no doubt the cat did—but as the torture was inflicted scientifically, we suppose it was all right.

STEAM FIRE-ENGINES.—The great value and importance of these machines is now so fully established that our cities generally are adopting them for use.

WATER RATES.—The Revere House, in this city, pays over \$1000 per annum to the city for the amount of Cochituate water it uses.

THE BEARD.

Americans are fast becoming a bearded nation, cultivating the mustache and beard generally all over the face. It is a fashion that has crept over the water to us, and not an unbecoming one to many. Still it requires much tact and good taste to manage the beard so that it shall be becoming to the wearer. It will serve to hide an ill-formed mouth, and of course as well as to hide a handsome one; the teeth look clearer and whiter from behind a dark mustache. The beard may be so trimmed and arranged as to do much in remedying any natural defect. A short face may be made longer, and a narrow one broader, a lack of development in the chin remedied, and other desirable objects attained. Ladies generally like the beard, not objecting to this distinction which nature has created between the sexes. We acknowledge a liking for the appendage ourself, considering it not only comfortable, but manly and becoming.

CHARACTER IN WRITING.

There are persons who profess to judge of character by handwriting; and to judge from their advertisements, there is very little doubt that their profession pays them. Yet their judgments, after all, are mere matters of guess work. They base them, as the gypsies do, on the mere pretence of simply looking at the hand. Now, writing a good hand by no means generally implies the having a good head. Still less is it indicative of having a good heart. A man may be remarkable for the superfine qualities, and yet may write the coarsest and most commonplace of hands. He may have the clearest brain, and yet may sign his name so puzzlingly that nobody can read it. Many a man, indeed, who cannot write his name at all, may, without untruth, be looked on as a man of mark.

PERPETUAL YOUTH.—"Women can easily preserve their youth; for she who captivates the heart and understanding never grows old." So we ought to record the "death of a young lady of one hundred," when a juvenile centenarian skips off the stage of life.

SWEETS TO THE SWEET.—"Pray, can you tell me, my dear Mr. Jenkins," asked with admiring eyes a very pretty young lady, "how is sugar refined?" "When a lady gives it to you, madam," was the happy reply.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—The Queen of Spain's last child has been baptized. It has no fewer than sixty Christian names.

OUR NATURAL WEALTH.

Almost every year develops new resources in our country, new proofs of the lavish bounty of nature in the land it is our fortune to inhabit. As the forest disappeared before the axe of the settler, the earth began to yield her exhaustless supplies of coal. When the precious metals became scarce, the existence of abundance of gold was made manifest; and now that whales are becoming as rare as angel's visits, we behold the phenomenon of oil superior to any ever yielded by the leviathans of the deep gushing out of the earth. We allude, of course, to the last natural marvels, the discovery of the famous oil springs in Venango county, Pennsylvania. If half the tales told of this discovery be true, the "Long-Tom Coffins" of Nantucket and New Bedford may lay their harpoons and lances aside. Their vocation has surely gone!

The oil flows out of a hillside, and a large number of persons have sunk wells and inserted pumps to raise the precious fluid. One man has a pump which delivers a gallon a minute. The oil comes from coal embedded in the mountains. The oil has very little smell, burns clearly, and is said to be superior to kerosene oil.

A correspondent of the National Intelligencer says: "I can assure you that the excitement is fully equal to the fever incident to the gold in California. The agitation develops itself in certain persons and temperaments in an extravagant manner. I sat on the bank of the creek below Titusville for some time, interested in the movements of two very respectable persons (of independent circumstances), wading in the deep, cold water, with stick in hand, alternately probing the mud at the bottom, and applying the end of the stick to the nose, to discover the possible presence of oil. Entertaining, indeed, to me, were the curious philosophical reflections in which they indulged, as they determined important and inevitable results from dubious contingencies, and established positive deductions from dubious premises. Oil has been discovered in large quantities along the entire length of Oil Creek, and with profitable results, by boring from one to one hundred and fifty feet. Drake's spring, about one and a half miles from Titusville, yielded about eight hundred gallons, and McClintock Spring, at the mouth of the creek, about twelve hundred gallons per day. The indications of oil along the Causewago valley are fully equal to those on Oil Creek, especially in the vicinity of the old salt works. This substance is said to be exceedingly valuable for almost all the practical uses of oil, and will undoubtedly command a widely-extended market."

ABOUT APPARITIONS.

The New Bedford Standard, in noticing Mr. Owen's book about this world and the other, wherein the design of the writer is to exhibit some of the proofs that the spirits of the dead still retain their interest in the affairs of this earth, that they are capable of affecting the living and even conversing with them in audible tones, and of rendering themselves perceptible to the eye, says: "When we read of the apparition of the dead, in their spiritual bodies, and yet wearing clothes similar to those they wore on earth, we think the argument proves too much. For it seems absurd to suppose that a slouched hat and a gold-headed cane have also a spiritual part which the deceased puts on his spiritual head, or carries in his spiritual hand. But if we acknowledge that this appearance is a reality, we must suppose the other to be so likewise." This idea has always struck us, in connection with ghost stories. The ghost of a pair of breeches is ludicrously incomprehensible. We remember being struck with the incongruity in a picture representing the apotheosis of the first Napoleon. There was the great emperor ascending to the seventh heaven, with a halo of glory round his head, and those famous jackboots going up too—an immortality of leather! It may be said that boots have soles, but the suggestion is that of an unfeeling punster. Yet probably the artist was tenacious of those boots, and refused to pull them off at the suggestion of the critics, exclaiming, with the stage hero:

"Who dares this pair of boots displace,
Must meet Bombastes face to face."

DEAR OLD LADY!—Mrs. Partington desires to express her regrets that the French emperor has suppressed the Universe, and wants to know how he did it, and where he got his power.

MAKING MONEY.—Seven hundred industrious individuals gain a disreputable livelihood in the State of Ohio by manufacturing counterfeit money.

HORSEFLESH.—A writer in the New York Spirit of the Times estimates that there are 5,000,000 horses in the United States, and that they are worth \$400,000,000.

BRANDRETH'S PILLS.—A man named Brandreth shot a thief with peas the other night at Watertown, Wisconsin.

A HINT.—If you would not have affliction visit you twice, listen at once to what it teaches.

WHAT'S IN A FLAG?

What's in a flag? Of itself it is a mere bit of bunting, white or blue or red, or it may be a few yards of silk fluttering in the breeze, and shining in the sun. But is this all? No! A national flag is a living language—a symbol that resumes within itself a history. "What is there," exclaims an enthusiastic writer, "more living than a flag? It moves, it palpitates, it breathes. Thousands of men die for it. Its rents adorn it, as wounds decorate the face of an old warrior. When it is but a lance surmounted by a rag of bunting, it becomes thrice holy and thrice sanctified. It is a shroud which has received the impress of the bleeding and scarred face of an army."

The meteor-flag of England! what memories cluster about its crimson cross! what a muster-roll of heroes unfolds itself before the imagination, as the eye rests upon its folds! The tricolor of France! for how many years has it been associated with deeds the recital of which stirs the blood like the blare of a brazen trumpet, or the roll of a hundred drums! We behold it unfolded on the sands of Egypt, with the pyramids in the distance, with "centuries looking down on it," as Napoleon eloquently said, when the splendid cavalry of the Orient melted away like mist before the rolling volleys of the impregnable French squares. We see it climbing the Alps, and blazing in the sunlight on the plains of Lombardy. We behold the Austrian eagles in full flight before it. Again it rises on the view, pale, tattered, rent, fluttering in the Arctic air of Russia over the heads of frozen spectres that look like men dragged out of their graves, while hordes of Cossacks prowled like northern wolves around them, and the far distance is lighted by the lurid flashes of the enemy's artillery. We behold it again in a darker hour, when nations are banded against it. It descends with the Old Guard to the final carnage of Waterloo, and sinks with the hopes of France and liberty upon that stricken field. The white flag of the Bourbon rises in its stead; but not for long. Out of the blood and smoke of revolution, it rises again. It flutters over many a fierce struggle in Algeria, and it is again unfolded in the Italian sun, leading from victory to victory till the red day of Solferino crowns it with a fame worthy of its youthful laurels.

The black flag! what heart has not shuddered even at the pictured image of that sign of terror! The very thought of the pirate's ensign conjures up many a terrible tale of the ocean; of plundered galleons, of murdered crews, of desperate strife, of black waves closing over helpless victims.

Last, not least, nearest and dearest to our hearts is the star-spangled banner, the stainless flag of our republic, which has floated in undiminished glory from the time when it was first given to the breeze, down to the present day. New stars are yearly taking their place in its glorious constellation, and beautiful and bright, it waves in sunshine and storm—the symbol of a nation's power and a world's hope. The American traveller who in some foreign port beholds that proud and lovely ensign fluttering from the topmast of a vessel of his nation, comprehends the full significance and eloquence of a flag. His throbbing heart and tear-brimmed eyes confess all the power of symbolism and of association. He recalls the splendid story of our annals, and thanks God that he is an American. Many are the brave men who lived and toiled and died, that the star-spangled banner might be glorious. It received its baptism of blood and fire in hours of mingled glory and gloom. In terrible land battles, in fearful engagements at sea, throughout three great wars, twice with the haughtiest power in the world, it has received the laurel of victory; and it now rallies under its folds thirty millions of freemen, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the great lakes to the gulf. It sheds a lustre over the white wings of commerce from the poles to the tropics, from Jeddo to San Francisco, trailing its glories round the globe. It is a flag to live for and die for. And as yet, it is but in the infancy of its career. Who shall say over what realms that starred flag shall beam in the unseen future, either in warlike or in peaceful triumph? And who will dare to say that this glorious ensign is nothing but a bit of colored bunting? It is a nation's life.

MARRIED AT LAST.—The Gloucester News says that a couple have just been married in that town, after a courtship of thirty years! They did not act on the principle of the old Scotch proverb:

"Happy's the wooing
That's not long a-doing."

SAILOR'S BETHEL.—They are about erecting a Sailor's Bethel in New Orleans. The sailor has a natural respect for religion, and sailors would be as actively religious as landsmen if they had the same opportunities and advantages.

AN ATROCIOS MURDERER.—A Cuban man-latto, named Francisco Javier Lazo, was lately garrotted at Havana, who confessed to having murdered twenty-three persons.

Foreign Miscellany.

General Sir William Napier, the historian of the Peninsular War, is dead.

Six autograph letters of Sir Walter Scott were lately sold in London for \$9 each.

A minister of the Church of England lately eloped with a young female who was a convict in the work-house.

A gold nugget worth £3200 was lately found in the auriferous sands of the river Arym, in Siberia, and has been sent to St. Petersburg.

The All England Eleven are prepared to make a voyage to the antipodes with a view to competing with Austrian cricketers.

Two deaths from internal ulcers, caused by smoking tobacco, are said to have recently occurred in Normandy.

It is understood to be the intention of her majesty, that the visit of his royal highness the Prince of Wales to Canada shall take place in the early part of July next.

Carlyle is busily at work on the third and fourth volumes of his *Frederick the Great*, but has no hope of sending them to press before the next year.

The Countess of Newburgh is now the oldest member of the titled British aristocracy. She has just entered her 99th year, and her sight and memory are but very slightly impaired.

The London papers report the death of Dr. Samuel Johnson's god-daughter, in whose behalf a subscription was raised, through the influence of Mr. Carlyle and other literary gentlemen.

A subscription has been opened in Paris for the great-granddaughter of Racine, who lives in great poverty. The emperor has contributed 10,000 francs, the empress 6000 francs, and the imperial prince 6000 francs.

Each of the crew of the *Fox* has been presented by Lady Franklin with an elegant silver watch, valued at £10, bearing a suitable inscription on the outer case, and surmounted by an engraving representing the *Fox* in full sail.

Edward Bevan, well known for his efforts for the perfecting of bee culture, died recently at his residence near Hereford, in the ninetieth year of his age. His work on "The Honey Bee" is one of the best of its kind.

The Brussels correspondent of the *Amsterdamsche Courant* states that King Leopold, as uncle of Queen Victoria, has received an official communication of the projected marriage between the Prince of Orange and the Princess Alice.

Mr. L. M. Rothschild has purchased the Sussex Hall Library, numbering about 4000 volumes, and containing valuable Hebrew books. He has presented this to the Jew's College, and it is expected that it will be made free of access to the Jewish community.

A correspondent of the London Daily News states that at the recent quarter sessions at St. Albans, a poor agricultural laborer out of work was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for stealing a few sticks from a fagot stack during the inclement weather.

The Great Eastern requires \$150,000 to fit her out for a voyage to America.

The population of Paris, which a hundred years ago, did not exceed 600,000, is now more than 1,800,000.

Very few iron spikes are used on British railroads, "chairs" being used for each sleeper, which are fastened with wooden tree-nails.

The French government has determined to make clothes for the army every year of peace in the same quantities as if the country was at war, for "the Empire is peace."

The Dutch government has swept away the last vestige of slavery from its East India possessions. On the 20th of September last, the institution ceased to exist.

The London papers re-affirm a rumor, that has lately been denied, that Bulwer is engaged upon a new play. In spite of all its faults, the "Lady of Lyons" is the living play of the present century.

Through the agency of the English Wesleyan Missionary Society, the gospel is preached in more than twenty languages at 3650 places in various parts of Europe, India, China, Southern and Western Africa, the West Indies, Australia, Canada and British America.

Countess Hahn-Hahn, for many years a religious recluse in a convent at Mayence, returns to the world once more, at least with her works. A new novel of hers, "Regina Maria: a Tale of the Present Day," is in the press, and will shortly appear.

The so-called Canadian Reform Association is urgently advocating a dissolution of the Union, and the establishment of two or more provinces, with local legislatures, a central authority to administer matters common to the whole country, and a written constitution.

In Vienna a duel was lately fought across a table, with one pistol bulletted, the other blank cartridge. Somehow the bullet did not speed to its intended home, but slightly skimming the shoulder of the intended victim, rose and shattered a splendid mirror to pieces—and this was the only damage done.

The Vice Chancellor of Oxford has received £50 from a non-resident member of the University, for a prize to be given to the writer of the best English poem in rhymed verse, on "The life, the character, and the death of the heroic seaman, Sir John Franklin, with special reference to the time, place, and discovery of his death."

In 1854, an officer at Sebastopol was knocked down, not by a cannon ball itself, but by the wind of it, as the ball passed near him; the commotion produced was so intense that the tongue of the officer contracted instantly, and he could not articulate a word; subsequently he was relieved by electricity.

In Russia, fires are very frequent; and, according to a recent report of the Minister of the Interior in the year 1859, not fewer than 55 churches, 333 public buildings, and 10,210 private houses, the whole of the value of 26,540,970 roubles (more than \$20,000,000), were burned down in that country. In Russia, as in the United States, the buildings are principally of wood, which accounts for the prevalence of fires.

Record of the Times.

There are two hundred letter boxes in the streets of New York.

The German Sunday papers of New York publish about fifteen thousand copies weekly.

The whole number of school districts in New Hampshire is 2392; pupils, 86,706.

The mineral production of the United States amounts to a yearly average of \$12,000,000.

Twelve and a half feet of the Spanish claim in Carson Valley, Nevada Territory, Cal., sold Dec. 29th for \$120,000.

Gentlemen who smoke allege that it makes them calm and complacent. They tell us that the more they fume the less they fret.

That exemplary man, Brigham Young, says: "I believe a man can steal, and be justified in the act." This isn't a Young doctrine, but a very old one.

The franking privilege originated in England in the year 1660. Under it, members of Parliament used to frank "entire bucks and packs of hounds."

The salt springs at Grand Rapids, Michigan, which have been recently discovered, have been ascertained, by experiment, to yield twenty-five per cent. of pure salt—that is, one barrel of water will yield one bushel of salt.

North Carolina is the greatest manufacturing State, South. In 1859 about 29,000 bales of cotton were manufactured into cloth in North Carolina, while in Georgia, "the Empire State of the South," the number of bales was 26,000.

The Los Angeles Star says that place is suffering from a scarcity of lawyers. It must resemble that country where the grasshoppers sit upon the fences and weep over the nakedness of the land!

A little church in Blairsville, Pa., has lately fallen heir to a collection of paintings, nine in number, from Munich, Germany. They comprise what are called the "Stillenger Gallery," and are valued at \$75,000.

The Eagle Screw Company, of Providence, is one of the most valuable in New England. Very rarely does one of its shares find its way into the market. Its par value is \$500, and its market value fifteen thousand dollars.

The London Journal gives a view of Messrs. Allsopp & Son's ale brewery, at Burton-upon-Trent. They occupy fifty acres of ground for their yards, brewery, etc., which is about the area of Boston Common. One of the buildings is 400 feet long, 130 feet wide, and 60 feet high.

A Frenchman has invented what is called a barotrope, a sort of human locomotive, by which a man sits on wheels and walks himself along five miles in thirty-five minutes on the Boulevard Bazaar of Paris, at noon, when the street was most crowded.

The artesian well which is now being bored at Reading, Penn., has reached a depth of seventeen hundred feet. The water is represented to be of a decided mineral character, and to partake largely of all the mineral qualities which distinguish the springs at Saratoga.

Washington Irving's income was \$20,000 a year.

The letters of Abolard and Heloise are the most eloquent valentines of ancient times.

Brittania ware is an alloy 85 1-2 parts tin, 10 1-2 antimony, 3 zinc, and 1 copper.

The population of Kansas, according to official returns of the assessors, is 69,950.

It is estimated that there are four millions of female snuff-takers in the United States.

A South Carolina paper notices the death of a mule, whose age was known with certainty to be sixty-two years at the time of his death.

Louisiana papers are jubilant over the prospects of a great sugar crop next year. They say that the cane promise to yield abundantly.

By the great South-western Railroad, recently completed, passengers from New Orleans reach New York in ninety-two hours from that place.

A mammoth elk was killed in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, lately, whose antlers measured over five feet and had six prongs.

Somebody, at a recent donation party, at East Haddam, Ct., generously presented the minister with a \$3 counterfeit bill.

The population of Georgia, according to the census for 1859, is 1,024,000, of whom 575,716 are whites, and 448,745 slaves. The representative population is 884,597.

The present Catholic population of Philadelphia is estimated at 130,000, for the accommodation of which there are seventy-eight Catholic churches.

From recently published data, it seems that in Lima, Peru, there are forty-five shocks of earthquakes a year. Agitation is the order of the day there.

The highest spire in America is that of Trinity Church—Gothic—New York, 284 feet. The twin spires of Cologne Cathedral will each be, when completed, 500 feet high.

It would be a great advantage to some schoolmasters if they would steal two hours a day from their pupils, and give their own minds the benefit of the robbery.

The learned Baron Leibig has been appointed by the King of Bavaria, President of the Academy of Science. The baron is as busy as usual, and has just addressed a letter to M. Mochi on the subject of sewerage.

Nicholas Longworth, of Catawba wine notoriety, has now in his cellar four hundred and sixty thousand bottles of wine. When it is remembered that there are two or three other large wine manufacturers in Cincinnati, some idea may be formed of the extent to which the grape is cultivated in that vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. Annin, residing near the High Bridge of the New Jersey Central Railroad, are supposed to be the largest couple in this country. The gentleman's weight is 700 pounds, and the lady's weight 500. Mr. Annin's age is about 45, and Mrs. Annin's about 40. It requires six yards of cashmere for Mr. Annin's pants, and nine yards for a coat. He and his wife keep a public house at a place called Peg's Pebble.

Merry-Making.

A grocer in a neighboring city says that a lady recently applied to him for a pound of *oblong* tea.

The freedom of the city signifies, in modern terms, the right to a lodging in the station-house.

Weekly doses of wash-boards are recommended to young ladies troubled with dyspepsia.

A vicious man is *gross*, but the trafficker in butter, cheese, eggs and potatoes is a *grocer*.

What class of people bear a name meaning "I can't improve?" Mendicant (mend I can't).

"I really can't express my thanks," as the boy said to the schoolmaster when he gave him a thrashing.

The old fogey who poked his head from "behind the times," had it knocked soundly by a "passing event."

Two men out West undertook to see which would run the fastest. One was a sheriff and the other was a thief.

"Caught in her own net," as the man said, when he saw one of the fair sex hitched in her crinoline.

Why is a clergyman about concluding an eloquent discourse like a little boy with ragged garments? Because he's tor'd his close!

A thief broke into a grocer's ware-house, and on trial excused himself on the plea that he merely went in there to *take tea*.

A young lady recently married a farmer, and on visiting the cow-house, asked the servant—"which cow is it that gives the butter-milk?"

"Though lost to sight, to memory dear," as the maiden said to her lover when his face was buried in beard and whiskers.

A little child said to his father, with an earnest countenance: "I know how to fire the guns of earth, but who is tall enough to touch off thunder?"

A man swallowed an ounce and a half of sulphuric acid, and then complained that he didn't feel well. He should have repeated the dose for a permanent cure.

"Are you a Christian Indian?" asked a person of an adherent of Red Jacket, at the settlement near Cattaraugus. "No," said the sturdy savage, "I *whiskey Indian*."

Jenkins says his brother, who edits a paper out West, is doing first-rate. He has had two new hats within the last three years. Jenkins is inclined to put on airs.

Many persons have a particular ambition to seem exactly what they are not. We know a rich man who bought a splendid library, and signed the contract *with his mark*.

"Is Mr. Tibbs a slow man, that you never associate with him?" "Mr. Tibbs, my love, is slow as the clock in the Court of Chancery, which takes an hour and twenty minutes to strike one."

The boy at the head of the class will state what were the Dark Ages of the world?" Boy hesitates. "Next—Master Jones, can you tell me what the Dark Ages were?" "I guess they were the ages before spectacles were invented."

What is most like a horse's shoe? A mare's. Beer-brewers must be very miserable men. They are *ale-ing* continually.

A dentist at work in his vocation always looks down in the mouth.

Two of the greatest fools in society are the money borrower and the money lender.

How can an heiress be homely, if she "comes down handsome?" asks the Boston Post.

Laziness is like an old shoe—very comfortable, but of no value to its owner or anybody else.

An harangue in Parliament or Congress, in favor of declaring war, may be called a *war-rant*.

A terrible bore—the bore of the Armstrong gun.

Why is the letter N like a faithless lover? Because it's in constant.

When you cut six inches off a walking stick how long is it? Six inches shorter.

Bow to destiny; one of these days he may be polite and return your bow.

Physicians' prescriptions are now called death warrants in Latin.

In these days of crinoline, the world of fashion is truly "a wide, wide world."

If dull weather affects you, marry a warm-hearted girl, and make sunshine for yourself.

Why should lawyers be classed as members of the feminine gender? Because they are females.

How is it proved Noah did not come first out of the ark? Because the Bible says he came *forth*.

"Done it on my own hook" is now rendered "Executed the responsibility on my own personal curve."

A pretty face and handsome dressing, often make a great *belle*; but the enraged bull sometimes makes a great *beller*.

The man who tried to steep the bark of a dog in the waters of eternal youth, is now endeavoring to invoke the muse of a cat.

When may a butler of the olden time be said to have discharged his master? When he gave him the sack.

• Ostentimes at an election a political party rolls up its sleeves to roll up a majority, and after the election simply rolls up its eyes.

A punster passing by the shop of Mr. Tassell, observed that his name would be *As-Well* without the T.

Two men out West undertook to see which would run the fastest. One was a sheriff and the other was a thief.

An editor down South apologizes for a delay in the issue of his paper, as he had an extra "male" to attend to this week.

Though we have no positive evidence of the fact, it is almost certain that Shakspeare was a broker, no one having furnished more stock quotations than he.

One of the candidates for a municipal office is claimed to be *personally* very popular. From the liberal manner in which he "pays out," we have no doubt he is daily gaining much popularity, *pure-onally*.

THE MILITARY CAREER OF SPLAYKINS.



Splaykins, whose figure is universally admired,



Joins the military, as he considers the uniform just calculated to adorn him;



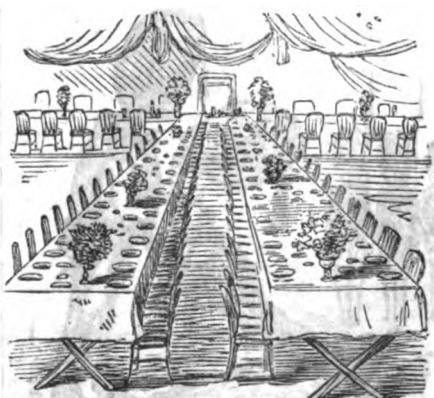
Besides which it looks well in a ball-room,



As also on parade.



And after the initiation drink and



Collation, the dues are merely nominal.

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE.
THE CHEAPEST MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD.



Does not, however, get along very well at drill—the musket occasionally dropping on his toes.



His file-leader's heels are always in the way in marching.



And the fire-lock kicks so hard as to knock him down when it goes off.



He makes a grand parade on the Fourth of July, and proves too much for the captain.



The Fourth proves too much for him, and he retires from active service,



Regretted by the whole company.

The Florist.

Gather ye rosebuds while ye may,
Old Time is still a-flying;
And this same flower that smiles to-day,
To-morrow will be dying.—HANNAH.

Root-grafting Roses.

The process of root-grafting roses may now be performed, and it is the best method of increasing the hybrid perpetuals, though it may be safely practised with all roses. The roots generally used are those of the manetti, and splice or plain grafting the mode most practised. Prepare clean pieces of root about one inch, or an inch and a half long; pare off a thin slice smoothly at one end, to which the graft, prepared in a similar manner, must be adjusted. Apply the two surfaces, taking care to have the edges, or at least one edge, coincide; hold firmly with the thumb and finger until strongly tied with cotton twist; then smear with grafting composition, or common grafting paper coated with a mixture of tallow, beeswax and resin, such as is employed in fruit-tree root-grafting; insert the grafts in pans of sandy loam, and place in a gentle bottom heat.

The Chrysanthemum.

The chrysanthemum is the pride of the amateur's garden; it is a flower easy of culture, and within the means of all. It grows by the cottager's porch and in the rich man's conservatory. It is used to form the bridal wreath, as well as the village's nosegay. Gold is not its prevailing color now as of old. We have delicate white, soft yellow, pleasing blue, bright red, dusky brown, and all shades of these.

Soil for Flower-Beds.

The soil for flower-beds should be neither too light nor too heavy. If too sandy, though the plants will come forward rapidly, yet in our hot dry summer weather they will require too frequent watering. If too heavy, it will be troublesome to work, and will be apt to cake and harden after rain. For manure, leaf mould, rotted sods and charcoal dust are excellent.

Verbenas.

The seeds of verbenas are a long time germinating—sometimes a month, but they are pretty sure to come up. Sow in pots in the house, covering the seeds with a very little earth, early in the spring. They can be transplanted into the garden as early as any verbenas grown in hot-houses. If they do well, they will blossom in July.

Edging for Flower-Borders.

The very neatest edging for flower-borders in a small garden is box. Great pains should be taken in keeping it evenly clipped, as severe formality is absolute necessary in box edgings. No old-fashioned garden was ever thought complete without its neat boundary rows of box.

The Dielytra Spectabilis.

This elegant flower is fast becoming a universal favorite. It was introduced from Japan via England, about ten years ago. As it forms a fleshy or tuberous root-stock, it is very easily propagated by division or cuttings.

Birds' Eyes.

This little plant, the botanical name of which is *primula farinosa*, is very pretty, and should be cultivated in soil which has a large proportion of peat, and kept moist.

Arranging a Garden.

It is frequently found that in small gardens, and particularly those walled in, one part of it gets very little sun; perhaps one of the walls gets none; scarcely anything does well near that wall. It is a good plan to make the principal path near that wall. In this case a little border, not more than a foot wide, should be made for the purpose of planting ivy or climbing roses, or anything to cover the wall, and next that the path; the edging to the path should be London pride, thrift, or white *Arabis*. The other part of the garden which the sun reaches should be flower-beds for things which cannot thrive without it.

Influence of Flowers.

Why does not every one have a geranium, a rose, a fuchsia, or some other flower, in the window? It is very cheap, next to nothing, if you raise it from seed or slip, and it is a beauty and a companion. As charming Leigh Hunt says, "It sweetens the air, rejoices the eye, links you with nature and innocence, and is something to love. If it cannot love you in return, it cannot hate you; it cannot utter a hateful thing even for neglecting it, for though it is all beauty, it has no vanity; and living, as it does, purely to do you good, and afford you pleasure, how can you neglect it?"

Timely Hints.

Never work with bad tools. The difference between the work done in a month would buy a set of new ones. Have a place for every tool and never leave one out of its place. Never fill a pot so full of soil but that it may hold water enough to go through it; every pot should have an inch of space above the compost. Never grow a bad variety of anything if you can help it. It takes the same room and wants the same attention as a good one. Cover all seeds with at least their own thickness of soil, but as some gets washed off, you must allow for it.

Bee Larkspur.

The bee larkspur has become a very large family, called delphinium; of this one of the best is *delphinium formosum*. The seed of this sown when asters and stocks are sown, and similarly treated, will bloom the first year. The flowers are large and bloom in spikes, the color intense blue, the height about a foot. It is the richest of all perennials for the open border; the roots part for increase, but if left in the ground, it spreads and throws up more spikes.

German Aster.

German aster should be raised in a hotbed in February or March, pricked out when the plants have two or three leaves, and transplanted into the open garden in May, where they will make a very fine appearance in September and October. They should be grown in light rich soil, or in loam and thoroughly rotten dung.

Whitavia Grandiflora.

This flower is appreciated wherever it is cultivated. It has a profusion of rich blue bell-shaped flowers, and blooms perpetually, beginning when the plants are but four or five inches high and continuing all the summer and autumn.

Lily of the Valley.

This delicate and fragrant flower requires rather a moist soil, which should be tolerably light. The plant is increased by dividing the roots, which are very numerous; and though it is generally supposed to like the shade, yet it will not flower well unless it has plenty of light.

Curious Matters.

Preserves.

It is not generally known that at Coppet, on the Lake of Geneva, the residence of the late Madame de Staél, and her father and mother, the celebrated Monsieur and Madame Necker, the latter are not there buried, but preserved in a huge vat of spirits of wine. The curios, and they are not few, rush there to see this most painful as well as most disagreeable of sights. It was so much the desire of Monsieur Necker that he and his wife should be pickled in this strange manner, that, fearing his own family might not carry out his wishes, he left a certain sum to be paid yearly to the town for the support of a certain quantity of spirits of wine for that purpose. The vat is placed in the grounds close to the house, and partially hid by trees, which his grandson, Monsieur le Baron de Staél, had planted round it.

Anecdotes of Beards.

Among the curious anecdotes of beards, the oddest is that told of the eminent John Mayo, a painter, at the court of Charles V., whose beard was so long that he could stand upon it. This cataract of hair he kept tied up with ribbon to his button-holes, sometimes unfastening at the emperor's wish, opening the doors and windows that it might blow into the faces of angry courtiers. Another famous beard was that of a Bavarian merchant, who kept it enclosed in a velvet bag, to prevent it from dragging on the ground. An old writer, of more gravity, we fear, than veracity, asserts that the inhabitants of Hardenburgh had formerly the singular custom of electing the burgomaster who had the longest beard and biggest foot.

Is it so?

The St. John's News says:—"A gentleman of intelligence and observation informs us, from all the information he can obtain from medical men now having many cases of small pox under treatment, that there is no house in the city where gas is burnt, of the ordinary consumption, in which the disease has yet found lodgment. The gas, it is supposed, is a powerful disinfectant, and hence there is no contagion within the circle of its influence. He says that a person burning gas may contract the disease abroad and take it home with him; but it will not be communicated to any other member of his family."

Mode of getting Practice.

Dr. Richard Mead, of England, was the first to introduce the custom of having himself "called out of church," but he practised this ruse under more favorable advantages than most could. His father was a clergyman, with a large congregation, and when the doctor was summoned out, would say, "Dear brethren, let us offer a prayer for the poor sufferer to whose relief my son Richard has been called." In this way the son gained notoriety.

Curious Formation.

Some months ago, Mr. John Johnson of Lockhaven, Pa., had the middle finger of his right hand amputated close to the lower joint joining the hand. The wound soon healed over, and almost immediately a new finger commenced growing from the stump of the old one; and six months from the time the finger was amputated, Mr. Johnson had a new and full grown one in its place, with the exception of the nail, which is just commencing to grow.

Remarkable Discovery of Specie.

A Hanover correspondent of the Abington Standard says: "Remarkable discoveries have been made in the dwelling of Mrs. Hannah Robbins, since her decease. A tin pail filled with silver was found under her bed, and a kettle full of specie was also discovered. Some of it was mouldy and dusty with age, evidently having been undisturbed for years. The amount of specie thus discovered is \$1600. In addition to this, a thorough examination of the premises has brought to light a quantity of the old continental money, laid down in tobacco leaves. As this is of no value, it was not counted. All her property goes to a grandchild—the only survivor of a once numerous family."

Singular Phenomenon.

A geological singularity occurred lately in Savoy, which will attract the notice of the geologists. At Orcier, in the mountain chain above Thonon, a part of the ground sank, and in its place a lake formed. The high chestnut trees disappeared entirely, with the piece of ground on which they stood, and in their stead rose trunks of trees to the surface, which had evidently long been under water, and which must have belonged to a species of tree not known about the country. At the same time a little brook has formed, that carries away the superfluous water of the lake.

Singular Effects of Camomile.

A decoction of the leaves of common camomile will destroy all species of insects, and nothing contributes so much to the health of a garden as a number of camomile plants dispersed through it. No green-house or hot-house should ever be without it, in a green or dried state; either the stalks or the flowers will answer. It is a singular fact that, if a plant is drooping and apparently dying, in nine cases out of ten it will recover if you plant camomile near it.

Growth of Hair.

"A young lady friend of mine," says a correspondent of the London Field, "was recommended by a *coiffeur* to use sage water. She was obliged to discontinue its daily use as it made her hair too thick. Pour boiling water on the sage leaves, and let them remain some time in the oven or near a stove; strain and apply to the roots of the hair daily. If any female is needed, an equal mixture of cocoanut and olive oils, with a little perfume, is very efficacious."

That "That."

In thirty-one words, how many *thats* can be grammatically inserted? Answer, fourteen. He said that that that man said was not that that one should say; but that that, that that man said, was that that that man should not say. That reminds us of the following says and says: Mr. B., did you say, or did you not say, what I said you said? because C. said you said you never did say what I said you said. Now, if you did say that you did not say what I said you said, then what did you say?

King Bladud and his Pigs.

The city of Bath has a curious and somewhat comic tradition that the old British king, Bladud, being reduced by leprosy to the condition of a swineherd, discovered the medicinal virtues of the hot springs of Bath while noticing that the pigs which bathed therein were cured of sundry diseases prevailing among them.

A remarkable Book.

Perhaps the most singular bibliographic curiosity is that which belonged to the family of the Prince de Ligne, and in France. It is entitled, "Liber Passionis Nostri Jesu Christi cum characteribus nullis materia compositis." This book is neither written nor printed! The whole letters of the text are cut out of each folio upon the finest vellum; and being interleaved with blue paper, it is read as easily as the best print. The labor and patience bestowed on its completion must have been excessive, especially when the precision and minuteness of the letters are considered. The general execution, in every respect, is indeed admirable, and the vellum is of the most delicate and costly kind. Rodolphus II., of Germany, offered for it, in 1640, 11,000 ducats, which was probably equal to \$0,000 at this day. The most remarkable circumstance connected with this literary treasure is, that it bears the royal arms of England, but it cannot be traced to have ever been in that country.

Measuring the Waves.

The height of waves has been often exaggerated, some stating that they are often higher than the masts of the tallest ships, and others speaking of them as "mountains high." The late Dr. Scoresby has left us some data of the height and velocity of waves, which may be relied upon as nearly accurate, and which will give a more correct idea of the subject than the fantastic description of the poet. In a great gale the waves average forty-one or forty-two feet in height; but as the vision was often disturbed by the tops of breaking waves, which rose much higher, the doctor placed the average at fifty feet. The average rate of the kind of waves known as "rollers," he found to be nearly the same in the Southern Ocean as in the Northern Atlantic—the former running at the rate of 54.84 feet per second, or 38.9 geographical miles an hour, while in the latter, from experiments made by the doctor in 1847, he found the rate to be 32.67 miles per hour.

Singular Detection.

Between Orleans and Nevers, and not far from Cosne, on the Loire River, in France, lies the village of La Celle. In this village, standing at some distance from any other building, is the Giraffe Hotel, the proprietor of which acquired wealth very rapidly, and, to the villagers, most unaccountably. Recently a railroad was projected, to run through La Celle, and "mine host" of the Giraffe offered to have that part of the road which was to pass over a tract of land in his vicinity made at his own expense. This disinterested offer was not accepted, but laborers at once placed upon the spot, who, in the excavations necessary to make the proper grade, exhumed no less than twenty-five human bodies, some of which were recognized as merchants and travellers who had mysteriously disappeared after remaining for a night at the "Giraffe."

Deformed Skulls.

Considerable discussion took place, lately, at a meeting of the Ethnological Society, in London, in regard to some deformed skulls found at Wroxeter, near the Severn, but on an elevation of from thirty to forty feet above the level of the river, and about two feet below the ground. Many took the ground, that continued pressure since death had produced the singular shape of the skulls; but others seemed to think they belonged to a distinct race of beings. The meeting adjourned without coming to any decided expression of opinion on the subject.

Curious Suicide.

The Akron Beacon gives the following particulars of the suicide by drowning of Mrs. Ann Dumford, an Irish woman, in Tallmadge. The circumstances are very singular:—"She had recently given birth to an infant that did not survive its birth, and the anguish she experienced as to the destiny of this unbaptised offspring drove her to insanity. She left her bed at an early hour in the morning, and walked more than a mile barefoot over snow, frozen ground and ice, to the canal, got a rail from a fence, broke a hole through the ice, and plunged in. She was tracked from the dwelling to the spot, and the shawl floating in the hole indicated where the body was to be found. She was about thirty-five years old."

Foreign Bodies under the Eyelid.

The following simple process for removing foreign bodies from beneath the eyelid is recommended by M. Renard: "Take hold of the upper eyelid near its angles, with the index finger and thumb of each hand, draw it gently forward, and as low down as possible, over the lower eyelid, and retain it in this position for about a minute, taking care to prevent the tears flowing out. When, at the end of this time, you allow the eyelid to resume its place, a flood of tears washes out the foreign body, which will be found adhering to or near the lower eyelid."

Bearded Women.

Michaelis states that, in 1782, there lived at Dresden a bearded virgin. Her beard grew from each side of her chin, was three inches long, and of snowy whiteness. She cut it at first every month, then every fortnight, afterwards twice in the week. On her upper lip was a moustache of short black hair. She had a powerful voice, eat enormously, and was bold and courageous.—Elbe narrates that during the reign of Maria Theresa, a woman, who served in the army for many years as a hussar, and rose to the rank of captain, had a strong moustache.

Curious Anecdote.

Towards the close of the Revolution the owners of the North Church, in New Haven, sent to Boston for nails to make repairs with, when one of the kegs sent in return for the order was found to contain Spanish silver dollars. The deacons wrote to the Boston merchant that there was an "error in shipping the goods;" but he answered that the nails were sold as he bought them of a privateerman, and he couldn't rectify mistakes. So the silver was melted up and made into a service of plate for the church, where it is in use at the present day.

An ingenious Missionary.

The Rev. Mr. Hurlbutt, of Canada, a missionary among the Indians in British America, lately delivered a lecture in Detroit, giving an account of his labors among that people. Among other things, he exhibited a portion of the Bible printed in the language of the Cree nation, one of the tribes in the Hudson Bay region. This language he reduced to writing, inventing characters for the purpose. He then cut type from wood with a common knife, made a press himself, and then printed the book.

The first American Carriage.

The first carriage said to be built in America, was built in Dorchester, Mass., by a man named White, for a private gentleman in Boston. It was copied from an English chariot, though much lighter, and was a credit to its maker.

The Housewife.

Perpetual Plum Pudding.

Three pounds of stoned raisins, three pounds of brown sugar, three pounds of currants, three pounds of grated bread, three pounds of suet shred very fine, three pounds of eggs, one pound of citron, three tablespoomfuls of flour, quarter of a pint of wine, quarter of a pint of brandy, two nutmegs, a little mace, and a teaspoonful of salt. Mix the ingredients well together, and divide into six equal parts; tie each part in a separate cloth; put them in water already boiling, and boil four hours. If they are to be kept, hang them in a cool place, and when wanted for use boil them again from one to three hours, according to the time they have been hanging.

Silver Cake.

Two cups of fine white sugar, two and a half cups of sifted flour, half a cup of butter, three-quarters of a cup of sweet milk, half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in the milk, the whites of eight eggs, and a teaspoonful of cream of tartar; flavor with peach, vanilla or rose-water; stir the sugar and butter to a cream, then add the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth, add the flour, then the milk and soda; stir the whole together several minutes, then add the cream of tartar and spice.

Gold Cake.

Take the yolks of the eggs, after using the whites for the silver cake, beat them to a stiff froth, and mix them with a cup of sugar and three-quarters of a cup of butter previously stirred to a cream; add two cups of sifted flour, half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in half a cup of sweet milk; when well mixed, stir in a teaspoonful of cream of tartar; flavor with peach, almond or lemon. Bake both it and the silver cake in pans.

To make Brilla Soup.

Take a shin of beef, cut off all the meat in square pieces, then boil the bone three hours; strain it and take off the fat, then put the broth to boil with the pieces of meat, a few carrots and turnips cut small, and a good sprig of thyme, some onions chopped, and a stick of cal-ery cut in pieces; stir them all till the meat is tender. If not cooking brown, you must color it.

A Spring Dish.

Upon a toasted bread place a layer of well boiled spinach about an inch thick; upon this place at equal distances poached eggs. This forms a pretty, light and nourishing dish; but be careful that the yellow of the egg is not broken, or the appearance will be lost, and the eggs not worth eating.

Bread Cakes.

To one pint of stale bread, crumbed fine, add five eggs, two teacups of flour, half a cup of butter, and one quart of milk. Scald the bread with the milk. Make in a batter, and bake as buckwheat cakes.

For Stomach Ache and Dysentery.

If not of too long continuance, a wine-glass of super-carbonate soda every half hour, not to exceed six times, will cure.

Ink-Spots from Mahogany.

Touch with oil of vitriol, for a moment or so, till gone, then wash off with warm water.

Pigeon Pie.

Border a large dish with fine puff-paste, and cover the bottom with a veal cutlet, or tender steak, free from fat and bone, and seasoned with salt, cayenne, and nutmeg; prepare with great nicety as many fresh-killed pigeons as the dish will contain in one layer; put into each a slice of butter, seasoned with a little cayenne; lay them into the dish with the breasts downwards, and between and over them put the yolks of half a dozen hard-boiled eggs; stick plenty of butter on them, season the whole well with salt and spice, pour in some cold water for the gravy, roll out the cover three-quarters of an inch thick, secure it well round the edge, ornament it highly, and bake it for an hour or more in a well-heated oven.

Rice Bread.

Take one pound and a half of rice, and boil it gently over a slow fire in three quarts of water about five hours, stirring it, and afterwards beating it up into a smooth paste. Mix this while warm into two gallons, or four pounds of flour, adding at the same time the usual quantity of yeast. Allow the dough to work a certain time near the fire, after which divide it into loaves, and it will be found, when baked, to produce twenty-eight or thirty pounds of excellent white bread.

Black Ink.

Take of Aleppo galls bruised, one pound and a half; green vitriol, twelve ounces; powdered gum arabic, eight ounces; rasped logwood, eight ounces; soft water, two gallons and a half. Boil the galls and logwood in the water till it be reduced to two gallons, then add the remaining articles, and put the whole into a convenient vessel, stirring it several times during the day, for fourteen or fifteen days, at the end of which time it will be fit for use.

Furniture Paste.

Scrap two ounces of beeswax into a pot or basin; then add as much spirits of turpentine as will moisten it through; at the same time powder an eighth part of an ounce of resin, and add to it, when dissolved to the consistence of paste, as much Indian red as will bring it to a deep mahogany color; stir it up, and it will be fit for use.

Arrowroot Drops, or Biscuits.

Half a pound of butter beaten up to a cream, seven eggs well whisked, adding seven ounces of flour, six ounces of arrowroot, and half a pound of loaf sugar; mix all well together, and drop on a clean tin, size of a shilling; bake in a slow oven.

Egg Butter.

One quart of good molasses well boiled with half of a lemon rind, eight eggs well beaten and stirred in slowly; boil fifteen minutes, add the spices preferred, and put away for use.

Fried Peppernuts.

One pound of sugar, quarter of a pound of butter, seven eggs, a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in sour milk, and as much flour as will make a soft dough. Make them in rings, and bake in lard.

Spots on Cloth.

To take spots produced by acids from cloth, calico, or any other fabric. Touch with volatile sal ammonia or spirits of hartshorn, and they will disappear.

Borax.

The washerwomen of Holland and Belgium, who get up their linen so beautifully white, use refined borax as a washing-powder instead of soda, in the proportions of a large handful of borax powder to about ten gallons of boiling water; they save in soap nearly half. All the large washing establishments adopt the same mode. For lace, cambrics, etc., an extra quantity of the powder is used; and for crinolines (required to be made very stiff), a strong solution is necessary. Borax, being a semi-neutral salt, does not injure the texture of the finest linen.

Muffin Pudding.

Rub the tin mould with butter. Stick in the butter sultana or stoned raisins so thickly that no part of the mould be visible, unless you wish it to appear white in parts. Lay in the mould six or more sponge biscuits; and mix together two teacupsful of cream, four yolks of eggs, one glass of brandy, and sugar. Pour this into the mould and boil it. Serve with sweet sauce. It can be eaten cold as trifle.

Lemon Gingerbread.

Grate the rinds of two or three lemons, and add the juice to a glass of brandy; then mix the grated lemon in one pound of flour, make a hole in the flour, pour in half a pound of treacle, half a pound of butter melted, the lemon-juice and brandy, and mix all up together with half an ounce of ground ginger and quarter of an ounce of Cayenne pepper.

To cap Bottles.

To cap bottles or jars with bladder, so as to be perfectly tight, always put the bladder, after wetting, with the inside to the bottle, and no escape can be made. The reason is, all fluids enter the bladder from the vessels of the exterior. It has no other manner of entrance. Fluid must enter only this way, and it has only one to escape.

Stewed Beefsteak.

Fry a tender steak in the usual way, but lightly, with the onions, turnips and carrots; then stew, and it will be better flavored than when in a large mass. It may be done with or without the carrots and turnips; if without them, the gravy must be flavored with anchovy sauce, and thickened with a little flour or arrowroot.

To cure Chilblains.

To effectually and speedily cure chilblains, even of most aggravated character, if not cracked, take sassafras bark, and make a weak immersion. Add a little to a decoction of "tancapitols," or "aspes rhamadolis," and bathe slightly night and morning, and the cure is positive, never failing.

To remove Glass Stoppers.

To remove a glass stopper, if fixed in any bottle so as not to be removed, pour a few drops of sweet oil around the same; set in the sun, and it will soon work down and release the stopper.

To cure Burns or Scalds.

Cover them at once liberally with wheat flour, sweet and nice, and let them remain. They will heal rapidly, and all heat be drawn out.

To restore the Color of Piano Keys.

By applying fine sand-paper to the yellow keys of the piano, the color may be restored.

To keep Suet.

Suet may be kept for a twelvemonth thus:—Choose the firmest and most free from skin or veins, remove all trace of these, put the suet in a saucepan at some distance from the fire, and let it melt gradually; when melted, pour it into a pan of cold spring water; when hard, wipe it dry, fold it in white paper, put it into a linen bag, and keep it in a dry, cool place; when used, it must be scraped, and will make an excellent crust, either with or without butter.

Lemon Cake.

Beat six eggs, the yolks and whites separately, till in a solid froth; add to the yolks the grated rind of a fine lemon and six ounces of sugar dried and sifted; beat this quarter of an hour; shake in with the left hand six ounces of dried flour; then add the whites of the eggs and the juice of the lemon; when these are well beaten in, put it immediately into tins, and bake it about an hour in a moderately hot oven.

Imperial Gingerbread.

Rub six ounces of butter into three-quarters of a pound of flour; then mix six ounces of treacle with a pint of cream carefully, lest it should turn the cream; mix in a quarter of a pound of double-refined sugar, half an ounce of powdered ginger, and one ounce of caraway seeds; stir the whole well together into a paste, cut it into shapes, and stick cut candied orange or lemon-peel on the top.

To sweeten Pie-Dishes.

When these have long been used for baking, they are apt to impart an unpleasant taste, in consequence of the portion of oily matter they imbibe from the butter or lard. To purify them, place them in a boiler or large kettle of cold water, throw in a few hot ashes or cinders, and boil for an hour.

Dysentery.

Take Indian corn roasted and ground in the manner of coffee, or roast meal browned, and boil in a sufficient quantity of water to produce a strong liquid like coffee, and drink a teacupful, warm, two or three times a day. One day's practice, it is said, will ordinarily effect a cure.

Soft Corns between the Toes.

Wrap the toe on which the corn is, and one next adjoining, in soft linen or cotton, firmly, and let it remain. In a week the cure will be effected.

To grease Boots, Leather or Harness.

First let the leather be well dampened or pliably wet. Then the leather after greasing or oiling will be pliant; otherwise not.

To Cure Ruptured Navels in Infants.

Take a piece of adhesive plaster the size of a silver dollar, and apply over the navel until a permanent cure is effected.

To cure the Poison of Ivy.

Chew freely and swallow heatedly the leaves or green twigs of the white pine.

Sting of a Bee or Wasp.

Apply at once strong potash water, if obtainable; else salsatus water.

Editor's Table.

MATURIN M. BALLOU, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

PRACTICAL JOKING.

We have time and again denounced, in no unmeasured terms, the practice of practical joking, more especially those kinds which consist of experiments on the nerves of unhappy victims. Many and many a timid person has been ruined for life by the sudden shock of an alarm given by some thoughtless buffoon. There is now in a female lunatic asylum at Hammersmith, says the London Court Circular, a lady of exquisite beauty, who was driven mad by being suddenly startled by her maid. The lady's name is H—, and she resided with her husband, Mr. H—, a wealthy sharebroker, at a splendid mansion in Cavendish Square. One evening, a few months ago, she strolled in the dusk into her husband's library, to procure a book. The lady's maid saw her enter the apartment, and in a mere frolic concealed herself behind the curtains belonging to the window, until her mistress had placed her hand upon the work she came in search of, when she suddenly sprung upon her with a loud shout. The lady was so astounded by the shock, that she was struck almost senseless. Delirium ensued; confirmed madness followed, which has ever since continued without abatement, to a degree dangerous to all who approach her, and it is more than probable that she will never recover her reason.

A CITY OF THE DEAD.—Greenwood Cemetery, Long Island, N. Y., was first opened in June 1840, since which time the mortal remains of 60,650 persons have been buried in the enclosure.

A SHARP BOY.—A shopkeeper in Bond Street, Liverpool, advertised lately for a sharp boy. One applicant grounded his qualifications of sharpness on the fact of his having cut from four places.

HIGH PRICE.—Horseflesh must have been dear in England in the time of Richard III., for he offered his "kingdom for a horse" and there were no takers.

ENCOURAGING.—As you rise in life so does the envy of the world increase—the man who makes a reputation, makes enemies.

THE OLD OAKEN BUCKET.

The origin of Woodworth's popular song is given in a late number of the "Home Journal," on the authority of a private letter to one of the editors, as follows: "It was written in the spring or summer of 1817. The family were living at the time in Duane Street. The poet came home to dinner one very warm day, having walked from his office, somewhere near the foot of Wall Street. Being much heated with the exercise, he poured himself out a glass of water—New York pump water—and drank it at a draught, exclaiming, as he replaced the tumbler on the table: 'That is very refreshing, but how much more refreshing would it be to take a good long draught, this warm day, from the old oaken bucket I left hanging in my father's well, at home!' Hearing this, the poet's wife, who was always a suggestive body, said: 'Selim, why wouldn't that be a pretty subject for a poem?' The poet took the hint, and, under the inspiration of the moment, sat down and poured out from his very soul those beautiful lines which have immortalized the name of Woodworth."

WHAT IS FAME?—Dick Turpin has been made the hero of an English opera, so that his works live after him. He travels along the road of fame as rapidly as he went over that from London to York. It is a caustic practical comment on the nature of fame when Mr. Turpin is as immortal as Mr. Howard, or the Duke of Wellington, or Lord Byron, or Gibbon, or Sir H. Davy, or Scott, or William Pitt, or Lord Nelson, or Luther, or Washington.

AWFUL IF TRUE.—The Philadelphia Ledger, speaking of glove-makers, says "they generally prepare their own skins for making gloves." Glove-makers must be a short-lived race if they have to flay themselves alive to supply customers.

WHAT A FALL!—A man three years ago invested \$30,000 in real estate in St. Paul. He lately sold it for just \$1800.

A GOOD ONE.—Why is the world like a piano? Because it is full of sharps and flats.

THE POETRY OF COMMERCE.

It is a common error to suppose that all poetry is contained in books; that everything outside of books must necessarily be prosaic. But there is a poetry of life, as well as a poetry of literature; a poetry of action, as well as a poetry of repose. There are living poets who have never written a line, and lives of action that are unpublished epics. In fact we live, move and have our being in an atmosphere of poetry, though we may be unconscious of it all our lives, just as Moliere's comedy hero had been speaking prose all his life without knowing it. Let us take, for example, a commercial life. Most people are apt to consider commerce and poetry to be "wide as the poles asunder," but a more critical examination will convince them of their error.

Follow the history of commerce, from the most distant epochs. In the infancy of the world, its caravan slowly penetrated the arid deserts of Asia and Africa, and linked together the scattered members of the human family in those vast regions, as they do to-day. Commercial colonies spread the Greek civilization on the shores of the Mediterranean, and drew the bold adventurers of Tyre and Carthage to the north of Europe and the south of Africa. The mediæval cities, protected by their ramparts, defended the elegant arts against the iron yoke of feudal power. For many centuries the Hanseatic cities were the bulwark of liberty and property in the north and west of Europe.

The representative system germinated in the municipal franchises of the communes. At the revival of letters, the "merchant princes" of Florence welcomed to their palaces the banished arts of Greece. In the 15th century, the enterprising spirit of commerce developed that movement which drew Columbus to America, and inspired Vasco de Gama to double the Cape of Good Hope, till that time called the Cape of Storms, and invested with appalling horrors.

Since then, the modern system of international laws is solidly based on the interests and rights of commerce, and the necessity of securing them. Commerce spreads the treasures of the new world among the nations of the West; it gives a new strength to civil and religious liberty; by degrees it extends the colonial system to the extremities of the earth, carrying with it the elements of future independent and civilized republics.

But why should we dwell upon past centuries? What is it that renders the civilization of to-day so powerful and vital? Is it not the universal development of commercial relations, thanks to which all the products of sea and land, of mines,

ores and looms, all these which Nature furnishes us in her exhaustless bounty, all those which art and tireless industry create, reach the general market; where supply and demand meet? In whatever region the liberal hand of Providence has placed a desirable product within the reach of man, in whatever region human skill is exercised, whether it covers with its perfumed foliage the mountains of China, whether it shines in the auriferous sands of California, whether buried in the deep abysses of Arctic seas, or ripens in the fertile plains of southern lands, beneath the ardent rays of the sun, whether it issues from the workshops of the English or American Manchester, commerce, the ruling power of the globe, attracts everything to, itself for the purpose of applying it to the use, and benefit of nations.

The white-winged messengers of commerce, are also the white-winged messengers of gospel truth and peace. It is more than gold or silver, more than implements wrought by human hands, that commerce sends to distant islands and to strange and distant peoples. The light of religious truth and civilization is scattered broadcast, in the desert places by the merchants of the world. Well may the men who embark in this mission, who give to it their fortunes, their intellects, their hearts—well may they be called "merchant princes," and we are fully justified in speaking of the "poetry" of commerce.

WAGES IN FRANCE.—Wages in France, especially in the Southern departments, are said to be higher than at any period since the first revolution. In consequence, considerable difficulty is found in obtaining substitutes for the army, and some discontent is felt in Paris respecting this.

AN ARMY OF SCHOLARS.—The enrolled Sunday-school scholars under the pastoral care of the Methodist Episcopal Church are 800,000, a number equal to the population of the city of New York.

YOUNG AMERICA.—A man once asked a company of little boys what they were good for? one little fellow promptly answered: "We are good to make men of."

A LUCKY AUTHOR.—It is said that Mr. Charles Dickens has made \$350,000 in the last ten years.

GOOD.—An honest heart, says Prentice, makes a gentleman; but an honest modesty makes a gentle manner.

MECHANICAL CURIOSITIES.

It is only on reviewing the history of mechanism, that we can realize how much mental toil and valuable time and labor men of genius have wasted on toys for grown children. The construction of automata has ever been a favorite occupation of men of a mechanical turn. The earliest automaton on record, is the pigeon made by Archytas of Tarentum, 408 years B. C. Plato tells us that this artificial bird flew a considerable distance and alighted at the point from which he was launched. In 1260 Albertus Magnus, Archbishop of Ratisbon, and a Dominican, made a machine in the human form which saluted visitors in a few articulate words. He was rewarded for his labors by being accused of sorcery after his death. De Kempelen, one of the cabinet ministers of the emperor of Austria, exhibited a similar automaton to the Parisian Academy of Sciences in 1703, which articulated several long phrases. In the same year the Abbé Mical exhibited his *talking heads*, which were endowed with yet more wonderful educational powers. The learned Kircher and the philosophic Gassendi assure us that John Muller of Konigsberg, surnamed Regiomontanus, made an eagle which circled round the emperor Frederick in a circumference of five hundred paces, and ended by alighting on the spot from which he had started. Muller also constructed, says the same authority, an iron fly which flew about the room and alighted on the hand from which it had taken its start.

According to some chroniclers of the 16th century, when Henry III. made his solemn entry into Cracow in 1573, after his election to the throne of Poland, a mechanical prodigy no less remarkable was seen, and which did not less astonish the crowd. Wherever the king went, he was followed by a white eagle, constructed with such art, that he did not cease to float over Henry's head, beating his wings, during the whole ceremony. Cornelius Drebbel, a Dutch mathematician, made, in imitation of the famous statue of Memnon, a musical machine which wound itself up at sunrise, and played a continuous symphony so long as the rays of the sun fell upon it.

Vaucanson, acting on this idea a little later, produced his flute-player, whose renown, as the journals of the day attest, was not less than that of the duck. The artificial duck, it is well known, plumed itself, quacked, waddled, devoured and even digested food by means of a chemical solution by which the interior of the machine was charged. Every one has heard of Maelzel's automaton chess-player. This, however, has ceased

to be a mechanical marvel; it was only an ingenious deception.

Maelzel's automaton trumpeter was first exhibited in Paris in 1808. It was exhibited, in this city, together with his chess-player, mechanical rope-dancers, and speaking puppets, about thirty years ago. The trumpet-playing was very good. Every one has heard of Pascal's arithmetical machine, which performed a number of calculations, but which has been surpassed by the calculating machines of modern times.

The Jesuit Maimburg makes mention of a golden tree in the possession of the emperor Theophilus, laden with little artificial birds, which produced a concert similar to the song of nightingales, and thereby astounded all Constantinople. The *Journal des Savans* for 1840 speaks of two automata no less wonderful. The first was an artificial horse which could go over smooth ground seven or eight leagues a day; the second was a statue of iron, constructed by a prisoner, which, having issued from the prison, went and presented a petition to the emperor of Morocco in his palace and then returned again. John Walk, in his Latin discourses, speaks of a brazen spider made by a German clock-maker, which moved and imitated life so naturally that it was difficult to believe that it was not an actual spider. But Vaucanson seems to have surpassed all his rivals in this line. Besides his flute-player and the famous duck, he made, for Marmontel's tragedy of "Cleopatra," an asp, which crawled upon the bosom of the actress who played the heroine, and hissed; which induced a wag, who was asked what he thought of this wretched play, to answer: "Faith! I'm of the same opinion as the asp."

AN ERROR OF THE PRESS.—In one of the Scottish editions of Buchan's "Domestic Medicine," there is an astonishing misprint, in which a prescription, containing *one hundred oinches of laudanum*, instead of that number of drops, is recommended!

A BRUTE'S THOUGHT ABOUT WOMEN.—It matters very little how ugly she may be, a woman never sees a pretty one excepting in the looking-glass.

QUEER.—It is somewhat singular that women are rarely if ever inebriated when it is known they are so fond of their glasses.

SOOLDING.—The very worst use a woman can make of her tongue is to scold.

MINDING ONE'S OWN BUSINESS.

Whatever faults John Bull may have, he has many noble qualities and traits; and among the latter—we speak of J. B. socially, not politically—that of minding his own business. Bayard Taylor says when he first visited London, he was compelled by his circumstances to put up at a humble chop-house which was the resort of actors, hackmen, sailors and pawnbrokers' clerks. Yet the people "respected his silence and reserve" and asked him no impertinent questions. He intimates pertinently that he should have fared differently in the United States; and he is right. Here a crying nuisance to which native and foreigner both are subjected is a constant cross-questioning and prying into his affairs. "What may I call your name?" "What may you fitter for a living?" "Come here to settle?" etc., etc. Such are some of the rude questions put to a stranger which, if he does not choose to answer, his self-constituted inquisitors set him down either as an ill-bred person or a suspicious character, totally unconscious of the fact that they themselves are guilty of the grossest ill-breeding. No man of any refinement or delicacy can look at one of these eager-eyed, voluble Paul Prys without a shuddering disgust. It is useless to palliate such a breach of minor social morality by calling it "intelligence," "smartness," a "thirst for information," etc. It is nothing but the insolent curiosity of gossips in breeches, and the sooner such a low habit is abandoned, the better for the good name of our people. Every man's own business is quite enough for him to attend to.

FATE OF AN ENGLISH PAUPER.—A pauper in a Liverpool workhouse, kept for many hours without food, tried to swallow his dinner whole and choked to death in the attempt. His hunger was so sharp he could not wait for the nurse to cut up his food, and was too infirm to do it himself.

WHALERS AND CRITICS.—The whalers, says Turner, have a superstition that when they are going to harpoon a whale it is their duty to put their best jackets on. A good hint for the critic when he is going to strike a heavy fish.

CONJUGAL DIALOGUE.—"Don't you think, wife, that tobacco-smoke would kill the mosquitoes in our room?" "It might; but it would kill me first."

A HARD TASK.—It is not half so difficult to tempt a man into crime as to coax him out of it.

BUYING FLOUR.

It is about as difficult a job to buy good flour as to buy a good horse. Let us tell our housekeepers how to go to work with it. First, look at color; if it is white, with a slightly yellowish or straw colored tint, buy it. If it is very white, with a bluish cast, or with black specks in it, refuse it. Second, examine the adhesiveness; wet and knead a little of it between your fingers; if it works soft and is sticky, it is poor. Flour from spring wheat is likely to be sticky. Third, throw a lump of dry flour against a dry, smooth, perpendicular surface; if it falls like powder, it is bad. Fourth, squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if it retains the shape given by the pressure, that too is a good sign. Flour that will stand all these tests is safe to buy. These modes are given by old flour dealers, and we make no apology for printing them, as they pertain to a matter that concerns everybody, namely, the quality of the staff of life.

THE OXYGENATED BITTERS.—In this long established and real specific, the dyspeptic has a ready relief from all the evils incident upon indigestion. This remarkable preparation is also a sure cure for liver complaint, general debility, and all the various diseases which arise from weakness of the stomach and digestive organs. Especially in the spring of the year the Bitters form a pleasant and never-failing tonic, and as there is no spirituous compound in their preparation, there is no reaction to their bracing and strengthening effect. We have known of remarkable cures effected by the Bitters in cases of sick-headache, jaundice, flatulency and the like. They may be found everywhere.

AN OLD SAW.—A person asked a Grecian philosopher what he thought was the proper time to dine. "Sir," said the ancient, "the proper time of dinner with the opulent is when they choose; with the poor man, when he can."

A GRACEFUL JOKE.—At a public dinner three gentlemen having stood up at the same moment to say grace, Sidney Smith, who was present, called them "the Three Graces."

WIFES IN COMPANY.—Men of genius are often dull and inert in society, as the blazing meteor when it descends to earth is only a stone.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Out of every five infants born in London two die before they are five years old.

THE BATTLES OF LIFE.

There is nothing surer than that there is no absolute peace in this sublunary life of ours. There are armistices and truces, halts on the march, periods of repose at bivouacs, moments of rest and jollity, but these are only episodes in the history of a stern campaign. On this side of the grave, we can only sleep on our arms. At any moment, the bugle-call and drum-beat may summon us to action. The sons of men are the grand army perpetually marching on, perpetually fighting. In their pathway, obstacles rise at almost every step; there are batteries to be taken, heights to be stormed, victories to be achieved. But there is a stern joy in this incessant strife; without it, our energies would sink, our strength waste away, our very virtues become merely negative qualities.

It requires years to realize this truth. Poets, and all the young are poets at heart, figure in a very different scene. To them life is an Arcadia, with eternal summer shining on its flowery meads and fragrant groves, peopled with the gentlest beings, filled to repletion with paradisaical loves and joys. No tempest ruffles the calm waters of the fancied Eden; no stormy silence the music of its happy voices. Vainly do the pioneers on the march send back chilling reports of the desolate character of the tract they have travelled; only personal experience can teach a man the delusion of his dreams.

But how criminal it is in those who have charge of the young recruits who are destined to take part in this great strife, to conceal the dangers and duties which lie before them; to lull them into security and inaction; to lap them in luxurious ease, and sap the foundation of their moral strength. Even if we cannot convince the young that there is a hard fight before them, we can prepare them for the combat. We can teach them energy, self-denial, self-control and self-development. We can strengthen their minds and indurate their muscles; we can train them to take a pleasure in struggling with and overcoming obstacles. If the fortune of war favors them, then they are all the better prepared to enjoy it; if, on the contrary, they form no exception to the common rule, they are able to fight their way gallantly through the world. They ought always to be in "condition."

The English system of education for boys is a sensible one. At a suitable age, mama's petted darling, whom the winds of heaven are not permitted to visit too roughly, is sent from home and thrown into the vortex of a great school, no bad image of the world itself. It is, in fact, a world in miniature, made up by the youthful

representatives of various classes, rich and poor, noble, gentle and common. And here begins the strife which pre-figures the contest in the great theatre of the world; a sham-fight, as it were, preceding the great battle. Here a boy must stand up for himself, or go to the wall. He learns to be self-reliant, and to help himself. He makes friends and enemies just in proportion to his qualities. All boys are born democrats, and in the play-grounds the son of a peer is no more than the equal of the son of a commoner. If he puts on the airs of a domineering bully, his self-conceit is thrashed out of him. In this little world, genius, courage, manliness and honor are sure to meet with ultimate recognition; sloth, cowardice, effeminacy and baseness, to be branded as they deserve. Right, to be sure, does not triumph over might without hard fighting; and is it not so in the great world? The fight between Tom Brown and the "Slogger," so graphically described in "Tom Brown at Rugby," is but typical of the great battles that history records, of such a strife, for instance, as that between Italy and Austria. The literary emulation of the schools is a preparation for the emulation developed in the grand careers of the profession, of politics and diplomacy. There are evils, and great ones, in the system; but we believe the good counterbalances the evil. The character of the English people, liberally construed, justifies their general plan of education.

In France, a different system of education and preparation for life prevails. There boys are subjected to a constant surveillance, night and day, in school and out of school. Teachers dog their footsteps and accompany them in every act of duty or relaxation. They are never left to themselves, and consequently acquire no habits of self-control and self-reliance. Hence, when emancipated from school, they require, as citizens, a very strong government, and a government which shall take a paternal care of them; which shall mark out and define the limits of their actions, which shall dog, by its spies, their footsteps by night and day. In those things with which government does not interfere, as in the pursuit of their private pleasures, Frenchmen exhibit a lamentable lack of self-control. We are confident that we are correct in attributing many of the defects of French character, as contrasted with the good qualities of their neighbors across the channel, to the peculiarities of their system of education. And let us remark, in this connection, that we recognize many excellent qualities in the French, and many unamiable qualities in the English, but so far as aptitude for the battle of life is concerned, the bold Britons must,

take the lead. Female education, in France, is established on an equally false basis. Until their marriage, French women are subjected to a rigid police discipline. They are brought up in ignorance of what life really is, and ignorance is the most vulnerable armor in the world. Many of the most inestimable privileges of youth are denied them, and every one knows into what wild license too many French women rush, when the pressure of their educational ligatures is removed.

In this country, the young are left more to themselves; and consequently young men emerge into the arena of life far better fitted to cope with its requirements and vicissitudes. They have fought with buttoned foils and with gloves; when they handle the cold steel, and clench the naked hand, they know what to do. The great evil of this system is the precocious development of individuals—the growth of “old heads on young shoulders.” But this is an incidental and partial evil. Look at the great mass of the American people, with their strength, self-reliance, independence and energy, and say whether they have a superior on the face of the globe. Compare them with any people you may select—compare their achievements with those of any other nation, and, though you may theorize, you will find it impossible to substitute any living example of higher strife. In the great Battle of Life, there are no more energetic combatants.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.—A man is the healthiest and happiest when he thinks the least either of health or happiness. To forget an ill, is half the battle; it leaves easy work for the doctors.

SCENE AT PARKER'S.—Waiter—(speaking to the cook)—“One roast lamb and one potato.” Old gentleman—“No, no! not so much lamb and more potatoes!”

A BAD SIGN.—It is a bad sign to see a man with his hat off at midnight, explaining the theory and principles of his political party to a lamp-post.

A YOUNG LADY'S CONUNDRUM.—Mary asked Charles—“What animal dropped from the clouds?” “The rain, dear,” was the whispered reply.

CHILDREN.—Apropos of children, it was a beautiful saying of Richter's, that “the smallest are nearest God.”

RATHER FAST.—The public debt of Dubuque, Iowa, is over one million of dollars.

BAPTISM OF A DYING GIRL.

The Albany Express says: “On Sunday morning several young folks were baptized at Rev. Dr. Magoon's church. The first person who was baptized was a young girl, perhaps sixteen years old, in the last stages of consumption. She was literally arrayed in her grave clothes, it being understood that the white robe in which she was baptized was to be worn by her when she was placed in her coffin. She obtained her mother's permission to be baptized and then acquainted her pastor with her desire. She was brought to the pool in the arms of her uncle, attended by her mother, and lifted in the arms of the pastor, who gently immersed her head, after repeating the usual words. The scene was very affecting, causing some of the spectators to sob with emotion. She was so far gone that it was feared she might expire during the ceremony, yet after it was performed she expressed a wish to be brought to the church in the afternoon, to partake of the Lord's Supper, which was granted. After the supper, when in another room, she sang the doxology, ‘Praise God,’ and when in her carriage Dr. Magoon asked her how she felt, she whispered, ‘I have fought a good fight.’”

SEEING WARREN.—A very good story touching this capital comedian is to be credited to the Saturday Evening Gazette: “Mr. Verigreen came down from the country, and went to see Warren at his benefit, Warren sustaining five characters. ‘How did you like the performance?’ I asked. ‘Perty well,’ said he; ‘but that Warren's nonsense kind o' bothered me, so I couldn't hardly make out the story. I should think he'd see that folks laugh at him.’”

NARROW-MINDEDNESS.—Narrow-minded men who have not a thought beyond the little sphere of their own vision, recall the Hindoo saying: “The snail sees nothing but its own shell, and thinks it the grandest in the universe.”

A GOOD IDEA.—The life insurance companies are about inserting a clause in their policies, prohibiting their risks from risking their necks by ballooning or tight-rope performances.

THE PRECIOUS METALS.—Some of the silver ore of the Washoe mines, California, pays \$5000 a ton. Letters from Oregon confirm the account of the discovery of rich gold fields.

SINGULAR.—There are two hundred oil wells in Pennsylvania. Pray what is to become of the whaling business?

Foreign Miscellany.

A London dramatist has succeeded in making "A Frightful Accident" a funny affair.

English army chaplains are to wear a uniform—black and gold.

Some English journals are getting fierce with the Napoleon-Savoy question.

The Japanese are gradually becoming more and more accustomed to the intercourse of foreigners, and are already giving up many of their old customs, and becoming civilized.

Lord Dufferin has been excavating on the banks of the Nile, where a small temple, with the columns *in situ*, and a considerable number of inscriptions, have rewarded the search.

In five years the public debt of France has increased above \$500,000,000, and is still increasing. This is considered alarming by all the financial men of Europe.

Cheap "pleasure excursions" to Tetuan from Madrid and other places are advertised in the Spanish capital by railway and steamboat companies.

At the Paris Observatory, recently, a splendid lens, valued at 25,000 francs, was broken by the carelessness or awkwardness of two workmen. A bronze statuette has been stolen from the Louvre. It is valued at 35,000 francs.

A relic of the true cross is on exhibition at an English convent. As it is encased in jewels, it is worth tens of thousands of dollars. We should think the pope had had crosses enough of late to supply all his followers with the article.

The Belgian Chamber has adopted some severe enactments against duelling. In the event of the death of one of the parties, the survivor will be liable to imprisonment of from one to five years, and with a fine of from 2000f. to 10,000f.

A letter from an officer of the African squadron says the discovery of coal in Liberia, all the hilly ranges abounding with it, will bring not only wealth but civilization to Africa. The only drawback is the want of proper harbors for vessels along the coast.

Sir Moses Montefiore, the distinguished member of the Jewish faith in England, has addressed to a Jewish citizen of Washington a letter, handsomely acknowledging his deep sense of the liberality of our House of Representatives, in inviting a minister of the ancient faith to offer prayers at the opening of the House.

The English government have purchased a splendid range of buildings at Fleetwood, for the sum of £20,000, where it has been decided to establish a school of musketry. The building will be converted into barracks for the accommodation of troops who may be sent thither for instruction and practice in musketry.

It is stated by Prof. Leone Levi, in a paper published by the Statistical Society, that the consumption of paper in Great Britain, in 1801, was thirty-six millions of pounds. In 1859, the population had not doubled, being under thirty millions, but the consumption of paper had increased between five and six fold, having reached one hundred and ninety-eight millions of pounds.

A medal to commemorate the treaty between England and France is about to be struck at the Paris Mint.

Statuettes in aluminium are now made in Paris. It has a very fine grain, is easily chiselled, and takes the place of bronze with advantage.

The Russian government has ordered a steam fire engine from the United States for use at St. Petersburg.

Few persons attend church in Prussia. In Berlin there is but one church to 15,000 inhabitants, and except on special occasions these are empty.

In consequence of the completion of the telegraph between Alexandria and India, news from India will now reach England in six days.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean have just concluded an engagement at the Queen's Theatre, Edinburgh—the most successful that has attended their provincial experiences.

This year there is an increase in the British army estimates of nearly two million sterling (say \$10,000,000), the chief items of which will go to warlike stores by sea and land.

The total value of imports into the Sandwich Islands for 1859 was \$1,155,559; the custom house duties on which amounted to \$132,129. The total value of exports and supplies was \$628,575.

Sir Cursetjee Jamsetjee Jajeebhoy has given orders to a firm at Bombay to prepare a splendid court robe of crimson velvet interlined with gold, which he intends to present to her majesty, the Queen of England.

The name of the emperor of China appears for the first time in the *Almanach de Gotha* for 1860. Sian Fien is the seventh emperor of the dynasty of the Tsins, who succeeded the dynasty of the Mins in 1644.

A dinner service has been manufactured in London for the Bishop of Mauricastro. It is of solid silver, and capable of accommodating thirty guests. The cost was £12,000, or fifty-five thousand dollars.

The National Portrait Gallery has acquired a portrait of Sir William Herschel. It is one of the productions of Abbot, who is chiefly known as the painter of Lord Nelson. The picture was found at Bath.

The London Times says:—"It seems that the world is destined to be disappointed in all its hopes of Austria, and that we have in her a power which experience can neither teach nor calamity tame."

Mr. Norton proposes to furnish, in one volume, all the matter of Murray's European Guide Books. It will be issued in season for the summer travel, and will meet a great want of tourists who dread the incumbrance of accumulated luggage.

In London, lately, a police officer had a desperate struggle with a thief near the docks, during which the thief slipped overboard and sank immediately. His body was not recovered for some time, when thirteen sheets of stolen copper were found wrapped about it, which was, undoubtedly, the cause of death.

Record of the Times.

The first American vessel which sailed on temperance principles was the brig *Amazon* of Salem.

The estate of the Mount Vernon Association has very properly been exempted from taxation.

The present year, we are informed, is the centenary anniversary of Methodism in this country.

The State of Arkansas is the only State in the Union without a telegraph, and she has not a foot of line within her border.

A man in Indiana recently committed suicide through fear of becoming a drunkard, as he felt the appetite for liquor growing upon him.

It is rumored that Paul Morphy is to remove to Paris, with his mother, with the intention of making the French capital their home.

There are 998 booksellers in the eight Western States, Illinois standing first with 263, and Minnesota last with 18.

Some scoundrel removed a rail on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad near Oakdale, recently, causing the smash up of a freight train, and left a note informing the company that this was only the beginning of difficulties.

In exhuming some bodies at a family graveyard, near Crawfordsville, S. C., the body of a woman, buried some twelve or more years, was found a petrifaction, with each article of dress perfect.

Negro Sam, believed to have been upwards of 140 years old, lately died on the plantation of his master, A. J. Billings, of Jones County, Ga. When captured in Africa he was 45 years old, according to his statement.

The greatest raise ever attempted in Chicago was commenced a few days ago. An immense block on Lake Street, extending from La Salle to Clark Street, was to be raised, and 600 men and 6000 screws were employed in the operation.

A man named George Worcester hung himself in Elkhart county, Indiana, recently. He tied the rope to a limb of a tree, climbed up in the limb and jumped off, giving himself as heavy a fall as if he had been on the drop of a scaffold. Domestic difficulties were supposed to have been the cause of it.

Captain Daniel Searles, doorkeeper of the Louisiana House of Delegates, lately committed suicide at Baton Rouge. For years he had kept his coffin and winding-sheet in his house, and he already had his tombstone in the cemetery with his name inscribed.

It is probable that Brazoria county, Texas, is the richest in the Union in proportion to the number of its population. According to the last comptroller's report, if the property of that county should be equally divided among its voters, there would be something more than \$13,000 to each man.

Mr. Ensign Eldridge, of Chatham, an unmarried man of about forty years of age, came to the determination to end his life by starvation, and for the last twenty days has persistently refused all sustenance. He is probably insane. Several years since a female relative of Mr. Eldridge came to her death by the same means, at the end of twenty-four days.

There are 2562 students in the various medical colleges of the United States.

The common schools of Ohio contain about 600,304 scholars.

The North Carolina fisheries promise to be better this season than for years.

Vertigo or giddiness in sheep is occasioned by the presence in the brain of a parasite, known as a *hydatid*—the *canaria cerebralis*.

There is a lady residing in Elmira, N. Y., who is one hundred years old, and yet never saw but twenty-five birth days.

The swiftest horse ever known was "Flying Childers;" he performed 4 miles 380 yards in seven minutes and a half, which is at the rate of over 33 miles per hour.

There are two things which the Americans with all their ingenuity, have never been able to make equal to a Frenchman; one is a boot, and the other is a loaf of bread.

Ten pounds of walrus flesh and blubber Dr. Hayes saw an Esquimaux eat at a single meal. Well might the doctor say as he beheld this, "In-fat-u-ate!"

Native iron has been discovered in but very few parts of the world. Specimens have been found in Austria; and in Canaan, Conn., there exists a seam of native iron, two inches in thickness, from which horse-nails have been forged.

A 600 ton wooden ship, after being three years afloat, will absorb, by soakage, from forty to sixty tons of water, increasing the draft from six to nine inches, thereby increasing the positive resistance and reducing the speed.

The artificial breeding of fish has recently been successfully attempted in Canada. The legislature of Canada passed a fishery act two years ago, and appointed two superintendents of fisheries.

In a recent case of insolvency before the probate Judge of Franklin county, Ohio, the creditor claimed the spectacles worn by the defendant. The judge very properly refused the claim, on the ground that the spectacles were essential to the personal comfort of the debtor.

A Mr. Amunn, lately from India, has arrived in London with a parcel of diamonds, for one of which he asks \$1,500,000. The Hartford Times learns that a customer is waiting for him to get three more just like it, when he proposes to purchase the lot for a set of sleeve buttons.

A careful and expert mathematician has made a calculation, from which it appears that giving a steam engine a constant supply of water, and working it on a long stretch of twenty-four hours continuously, it will throw as much water as ten thousand men from hand engines during the same time.

In Crockett, Texas, Mr. T. P. Collins, a merchant of that place, lately published a scandalous piece of poetry about a Miss Whitwell, a school mistress. She sued him for \$6000 damages, and gained the case. The jury returned the verdict at midnight. So strong was public sentiment in favor of the plaintiff, that the verdict was received with shouts of the people, the firing of guns, and other demonstrations of gladness.

Merry-Making.

A person who can afford livery, ought to live very well.

The poor birds are not a very bold race, and yet a great many of them die game.

Some folks hate mustaches. They would almost as soon be *hare-lipped* as *hair-lipped*.

When a lover dotes on his darling, a refusal acts as an anti-dote.

When is a man out of date? Ans.—When he's a weak back!

In some cases authorship is but another name for *pen-ury*.

A man who often gets "high" through drink, soon gets *low* in purse as well as in person.

Why are ladies' eyes like friends separated by distant climes? Ans.—Because they correspond, but never meet.

Who is that with Miss Flint?" said a wag to his companion. "O, that is a spark which she has struck."

"I come to steel," as the rat said to the trap. "And I spring to embrace you," as the steel replied to the rat.

An old toper in an argument with a temperance lecturer, said—"I admit that water is useful for many things, but it's so thin."

A young lady in this city is so refined in her language that she never uses the word "blackguard, but substitutes "African Sentinel."

There is a lawyer so excessively honest that he puts all his flower pots out over night, so determined is he that everything shall have *its dew*.

A young lady who had lost or mislaid her beau, was advised to hang up her fiddle. She said the advice did great violence to her heartstrings.

"I wish, Mr. Speaker, to present a liquor bill," said a red-nosed member of a western legislature. "You never present any other kind," said a political opponent.

A lady once complained to her doctor that she could scarcely breathe. "Don't try, my good soul," replied the candid physician; "nobody wants you to do it."

Cuffy said he'd rather die in a railroad smash up than a steamboat burst up, for this reason. "If you gits off and smashed up, dar you is; but if you gits blowed up on the boat, whar is you?"

A medical gentleman wrote a letter in 1832 to Sir Henry Halford on cholera, in which he took upon himself the credit of being "the first to discover the disease, and communicate it to the public."

"Jack is a good fellow, but I will not lie for any man. I love my friend, but I love the truth still more." "My dear," said a by-stander, consider now! Why should you prefer a stranger to an old acquaintance?"

A Wisconsin paper, after describing a farm which the advertiser wants to sell, adds, "The surrounding country is the most beautiful the God of nature ever made. The scenery is celestial—divine; also two wagons to sell and a yoke of steers."

The real New England revolver—the spinning wheel.

Why is an infant like a diamond? Because it is a "dear little thing."

The gentleman whose lips pressed a lady's "snowy brow," did not catch cold.

Somebody—Prentice, perhaps, he says so many things—says the life of a newspaper, like human existence—is dependent upon "the circulation."

The Gospel Banner gives a recipe for preventing cream from rising on milk. It is to *buy the article of the milkman!*

Mrs. Partington has taken a decided stand on the Savoy question. She insists upon it that the Savoys are twice as good as the drumheads.

The Hartford Times says that "next to 'twenty-four grains,' there is nothing like a mean man's pocket to make a penny wait."

If a lady wanted a boa and tippet why ought she to buy it at a baker's? Because there she'd get a *muffin*.

A cobweb marriage is thus noticed by one of our contemporaries: "Married, last week, John Cob to Miss Kate Webb."

Why is a chrysanth like buckwheat cakes? Because it is a kind of grub that makes the *butterfly*.

The Albany Solons propose establishing a Tenant House Bureau. Why not include washstands and wardrobes?

A sentiment for a Dramatic Fund Dinner—England has but a single Tree, while we have a whole Forrest.

If a woman could talk out of the two corners of her mouth at the same time, there would be a good deal said on both sides.

Motto for the entrances to stages and cars, intended by Dante for the ladies—"Abandon hoops all ye who enter here.

Wanted to know, whether it is a sure sign, when a man slips down in the mud, that he has a *drop* too much.

"Ma, if you will give me an apple, I will be good." "No, my child—you must not be good for *pay*—you ought to be *good for nothing*."

If a rich old gentleman has a thought of marrying, let him consider well beforehand what it is that he stands in need of—a wife, an heiress, or a nurse.

A BRILLIANT PAPER!

FOR SALE EVERYWHERE,

THE WELCOME GUEST.

The most charming miscellaneous weekly journal yet offered to the public. Original in design and contents, and issued in the most choice and elegant style of modern printing.

OF THE MAMMOTH SIZE,

it contains the amount of a whole volume of delightful reading matter, and each number completes in itself—containing tales, sketches, biographies, gossip, news, wit, humor and poetic gems.

THE BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY and **THE WELCOME GUEST** are sent together for \$2.50 a year.

M. M. BALLOU, PUBLISHER,
BOSTON.

A NAUTICAL DICTIONARY.



Weighting the Anchor.



Sounding the Pump.



A great Swell



Running before the Wind.



Splicing the Main-Brace.



The Jelly Boat

BALLOU'S DOLLAR MONTHLY MAGAZINE.
THE CHEAPEST MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD.



Four Bells.



Taking the Captain's Watch on Deck.



Having (two) to.



Son' Wester.



Big Squall.



Close-Hauled.